Hafa Adai!

# Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXII, Issue No. 102 | TUESDAY MAY 1, 2012 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

**OPINION METER**
**This week's poll:**

Do you intend to visit the Taste of the Marianas anytime this month?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

## INSIDE

**LOCAL**

KKMP officers and staff shave their heads for the "Be Bold, Go Bald" campaign. ➤ PAGE 6

**BUSINESS**

One Facebook billionaire is shunning the luxury for life in the startup lane. ➤ PAGE 13

**LIFE & STYLE**

Hundreds flock to meet the author of the bestselling "Fifty Shades of Grey." ➤ PAGE 19

**Senate could decide on Article 12 initiative today. PAGE 2**
**Sixto's nomination withdrawn for resubmission. PAGE 5**

# Govt to fight bankruptcy petition

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The central government is planning to fight the bankruptcy petition filed by the NMI Retirement Fund in federal court, according to Fund lawyer Braddock Huesman yesterday.

See GOVT on Page 4

CLARISSA V. DAVID

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta points to the names of the doctors who have tendered their resignations and are expected to leave the hospital soon at his office yesterday.

## 30 nurses, 4 doctors quit at CHC

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» Babauta allays concerns about Medicare certification

A total of 30 nurses and four doctors at the Commonwealth Health Center have already tendered their resignations amid the ongoing financial crisis at the islands' lone public hospital.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta assured, however, that the corporation is in constant communication with the federal Medicare office to ensure that the CNMI does not lose its

See NURSES on Page 4

## *Legal opinion sought for hospital's CW petitions*

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Nonresident hospital employees are facing uncertainties in their housing allowances due to legal questions surrounding their petitions for CW, or contract worker's visa, according to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board.

Due to this uncertainty, corporation CEO Juan N. Babauta was asked by the board to seek the legal opinion of the Office of the Attorney General on the proper thing to do with these employees' housing benefits.

"There are some legal questions

See LEGAL on Page 4

**BEAUTIFICATION**
**Saipan Mayor's Office employee Lawrence Fleming, in a boom truck bucket, uses a chain saw to trim branches of pine trees along Beach Road in Chalan Laulau yesterday afternoon as part of a beautification drive to give residents and tourists an unobstructed view of the Saipan Lagoon. The tree trimming started on Thursday last week and is expected to wrap up on Wednesday.**

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

# Lawmakers forego reapportionment plan; leave it up to Fitial

» Members push for reduction in number of lawmakers through initiative
» AG: 120-day chance for Legislature ends on May 4

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Lawmakers have only until May 4 to reapportion or redistrict the CNMI based on Attorney General Edward Buckingham's legal opinion but as of yesterday no such promulgation plan from the Legislature exists and nothing is expected to be done between now and Friday, leaving it up to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to make the decision.

However, lawmakers interviewed yesterday, in-

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4

IT&E
Life in Motion
AN EPIC PHONE DESERVES
THE BEST NETWORK
Samsung
GALAXY SII
Epic 4G Touch
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS
*Terms and conditions apply

# Local

## Senate could decide on Article 12 initiative today

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate is poised to act today on a committee report recommending that the full Senate decide on a legislative initiative to propose a constitutional amendment for CNMI voters to retain or repeal the land alienation provision of the NMI Constitution, even as a non-profit group has already initiated a popular initiative petition to place the question on the Nov. 6 ballot.

Senate Legislative Initiative 17-10, introduced by Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), seeks to abolish Article 12 in its entirety.

The Senate will hold a session on Rota today, and the committee report on SLI 17-10 is on the agenda. The Senate and House need to pass the initiative so that it will be placed in the Nov. 6 ballot for voters' ratification.

SLI 17-10 is just one of the pending initiatives seeking to tinker with Article 12.

Article 12 limits land ownership in the CNMI only to persons of Northern Marianas descent.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), chairman of the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs, and the rest of the panel members, said the public hearings held on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota on SLI 17-10 drew different views. They said some testified for SLI 17-10's passage to abolish Article 12 in its entirety, while others only want to amend it.

The committee said those who testified conveyed concern over the blood-quantum requirement under Article 12. Others justified the need to allow foreigners to own property in the CNMI without barriers such as Article 12.

"Considering the testimonies at the various public hearings and the concerns expressed by those present, the Committee finds that it is in the best interest of the people and the CNMI to decide on the issue and ask that the people further educate themselves regarding Article 12, its history, intent and the future of their ancestral lands," the five-member committee said.

The Citizens for Change of Article 12, led by Efrain Camacho, has already launched a signature drive to place the question of Article 12 on the ballot. This group seeks to abolish Article 12 in its entirety.

Camacho and other CCART 12 members said that lawmakers have yet to pass any legislative initiative to place Article 12 on the Nov. 6 ballot.

## OAG lawyer will continue to serve healthcare corp.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta disclosed yesterday that the organization will continue to use the services of a lawyer appointed by the Office of the Attorney General to represent both the board and its management.

He said that Attorney General Edward Buckingman is now preparing a list of possible legal counsels that will be acceptable to the corporation board.

Board members recently expressed dissatisfaction with the performance of assistant attorney general James Kearney, saying it would be better to hire an independent lawyer. They claimed that Kearney gave the board "bad advice" when the corporation decided to hire Idaho-based International Consulting Services for the hospital's billing and collection services.

Board member Anthony Aguon even recommended the filing of an ethics complaint against Kearney for allegedly putting the board at risk.

Babauta told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that no such complaint will be pursued because the corporation has to deal with more pressing issues. The hospital is still under a state of emergency.

"This is something I was asked to do [by the board]. But this is an issue that is unnecessary. We have a lot of work to do and we have to focus on our biggest problems rather than on this issue," said Babauta.

Under the law that created the corporation, the board serves only as an advisory body; the CEO calls all the shots.

Babauta said that the board has accepted the service of an OAG-appointed lawyer because it has no other choice, considering its present financial constraints. "We agreed…because we really don't have much choice [at this time]," he said.

Based on the law, the AG still has to approve the hiring of an independent lawyer to represent the corporation—a provision that could be revisited in the future to give the corporation full autonomy, according to Babauta.


# Job Skills Class

**Are you unemployed and want a better chance of getting hired?**

**Could you use help in being better prepared and more confident at your next job interview?**

**If so The Bridge Project may have the help you need! We are holding classes on how to improve your job search skills to make you a more desirable applicant. We will also help increase your basic "ready to work" skills to make you better prepared for today workplace expectations. We teach practical, easy to understand skills that will make you more competitive in today's difficult job market.**

**Classes are held on Monday and Thursday evenings.**

**Sessions Topics Include:**

- Participant Assessment
- Realities of Job Searching
- Resume writing
- How to properly fill out an application
- Practical interviewing skills
- Customer Service & Workplace Safety
- The World of Work
- Communication
- Cultural Diversity & Team Work
- Basic Budgeting & Time Management

**The Bridge Project**
**INFORMATION SESSION**
**May 9 @ 6pm**
If you are interested please come to the orientation at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe in Room 305.
For more information call Jill @ 287-9395 or email deltamgt@pticom.com.

THE BRIDGE PROJECT

Participants must commit to the full set of classes, be eligible to work in the US and be unemployed.

**Program funded through a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs and the NMI Department of Commence**

**A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority**
*Tourism is everybody's business.*

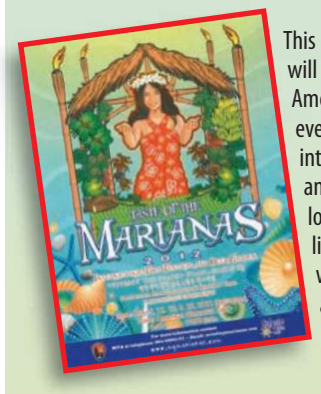
## May Tourism Month

May is Tourism Month in the Northern Mariana Islands, and here a number of ways you can get involved in support our primary economic driver.

### *"Hafa Adai Tirow"* Spirit Island Wear Fridays

Every Friday in May is *Hafa Adai Tirow* Spirit Island Wear day! Show your island pride and culture by wearing island attire or local traditional wear. Post your photos on Facebook at "*Hafa Adai Tirow* Spirit Island Wear of the Northern Mariana Islands" and get a chance to win Taste of the Marianas tokens; one lucky winner per week will be chosen from all who post photos.

### Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden




This highly anticipated weekly celebration will be held every Saturday in May at American Memorial Park from 6-10 p.m. The event will feature delicious local and international cuisine sold by over 15 hotel and local restaurants. Enjoy the talent of local and international performers with live entertainment all evening. The event will feature nightly competitions, as well as trivia questions aimed at promoting tourism awareness.

### "My Marianas" Community Outreach Presentation

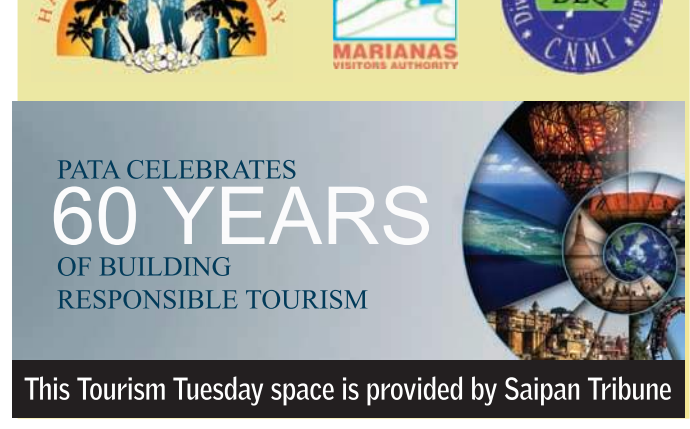
Get up-to-date on the latest industry trends and upcoming tourism events during this picturesque slideshow on Saturday evenings at the Taste of the Marianas. Tourism Month informational packages will also be available on-site.

### On-the-Street Interviews

MVA turns the spotlight on you as random community members are given an opportunity to share their views on various tourism topics in the Tourism Tuesday feature of the Saipan Tribune.

### Radio Tourism Trivia

Call in with the correct answer for your chance to win tokens for the Taste of the Marianas and Tourism Month T-shirts. "Did You Know?" and "Fun Facts about Tourism in the Northern Marianas" will be aired regularly throughout the month on KZMI (103.9 FM), Power 99 (99.5 FM) and KKMP (1440 AM and 92.1 FM).




This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

# Some lawmakers back subsidy for CHC but not $10M

## » Senate not passing HB 17-278 today because House yet to pass HB 17-80

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate is set to hold a session on Rota today but it will not be acting on a compromise version of House Bill 17-278 providing an $11.58-million line of credit for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. until after the House passes an agreed-upon accompanying bill to change the CHC board into a "governing" one, senators said yesterday.

The House will hold a session on Wednesday, and they may pass Senate Bill 17-80.

Just the same, House and Senate members said yesterday they support providing CHC with a government subsidy at least for the next few years to give it ample time to stand on its own since it became a corporation on Oct. 1, 2011. However, that subsidy may not necessarily be $10 million annually as requested by CHC chief financial officer Alvaro Santos, lawmakers said.

House Ways and Means Committee chair Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) said the panel is in a difficult position of recommending an annual subsidy to CHC while further cutting other agencies and programs.

"I personally support giving CHC [an] annual subsidy but we have to take away from others. We could do the cuts proportionally. CHC services are important," he said, adding that the proposed fiscal year 2013 budget allots only $2.5 million to CHC.

CHC was receiving $38 million government subsidy before it became a corporation in fiscal year 2012. The Fitial administration gave the corporation $5 million in seed money for 2012 and expected the hospital to collect $18 million in revenues in 12 months. The hospital is nowhere close to collecting that. Because of the halt in government subsidy and severe lack of funds, CHC always teeters on the edge of a shutdown.

"If we could give them $10 million or more, we would do so but there's just no new money coming in," Basa said.

Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) and Rep. Frank Dela Cruz (R-Saipan) separately said they support the idea of continuing to subsidize CHC.

Palacios said the July 1 launch of Saipan Air could bring in more tourists and more revenues for the CNMI government, and that could help fund CHC.

Dela Cruz, a Health Committee member, said CHC should still be subsidized by the central government but there should be a sunset provision; for example, only for three years or up to 2015. "Hopefully by that time CHC can already stand on its own," he added.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), chairman of the Senate Health Committee, said he also supports annual government support to CHC for at least a few years more.

"But the amount is not necessarily $10 million or more; otherwise they will be back to being a government department and not a corporation," he added.

Torres is also co-chair of the conference committee that worked on HB 17-278. He reiterated yesterday that House and Senate conferees agreed to pass the two CHC-related bills simultaneously but the House only passed the compromise version of HB 17-278 last week.

Rep. Sylvester Iguel (Cov-Saipan), co-chair of the conference committee, said it was only an oversight that SB 17-80 was not reported out by his committee as he was sick days before the session last week.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said that when he announced on Thursday that the Senate will reschedule its session for today, he was expecting the House to also schedule that day another session either for yesterday or today to pass the accompanying bill. He said that would have been enough for a three-day advance notice.

Manglona said the speaker has not formally called for a House session, although members said yesterday a House session could be held on Wednesday.

Because most senators were already on Rota as of yesterday, Manglona said he won't cancel the Senate session today and would act on other measures instead.

However, the Senate will hold a session again to act on HB 17-278 after the House passes on Wednesday SB 17-80.

# Ambulance company sues DPS fire chief, others

A private ambulance company is suing Department of Public Safety's Fire Division chief Thomas M. Manglona and several others for allegedly conspiring to destroy the company's business.

August Healthcare Group LLC, owner of Saint Michael's Medical Response, through counsel Braddock J. Huesman, alleged that Thomas Manglona conspired with Joaquin C. Manglona in an effort to harm St. Michael's and help another newly formed ambulance company, Priority Care.

According to Huesman, it was the Manglonas' express intent to run St. Michael's out of business by using Thomas Manglona's position within DPS to harass and interfere with St. Michael's business operations.

Aside from Thomas and Joaquin Manglona, August Healthcare Group also named in their lawsuit as co-defendants Michael Manibusan Takai, John Benedict Taisakan Pelisamen, and Marianas Global Ventures LLC, which owns Priority Care.

Thomas and Joaquin Manglona are cousins and Joaquin is one of the members of Priority Care. Takai and Pelisamen are former employees of St. Michael's.

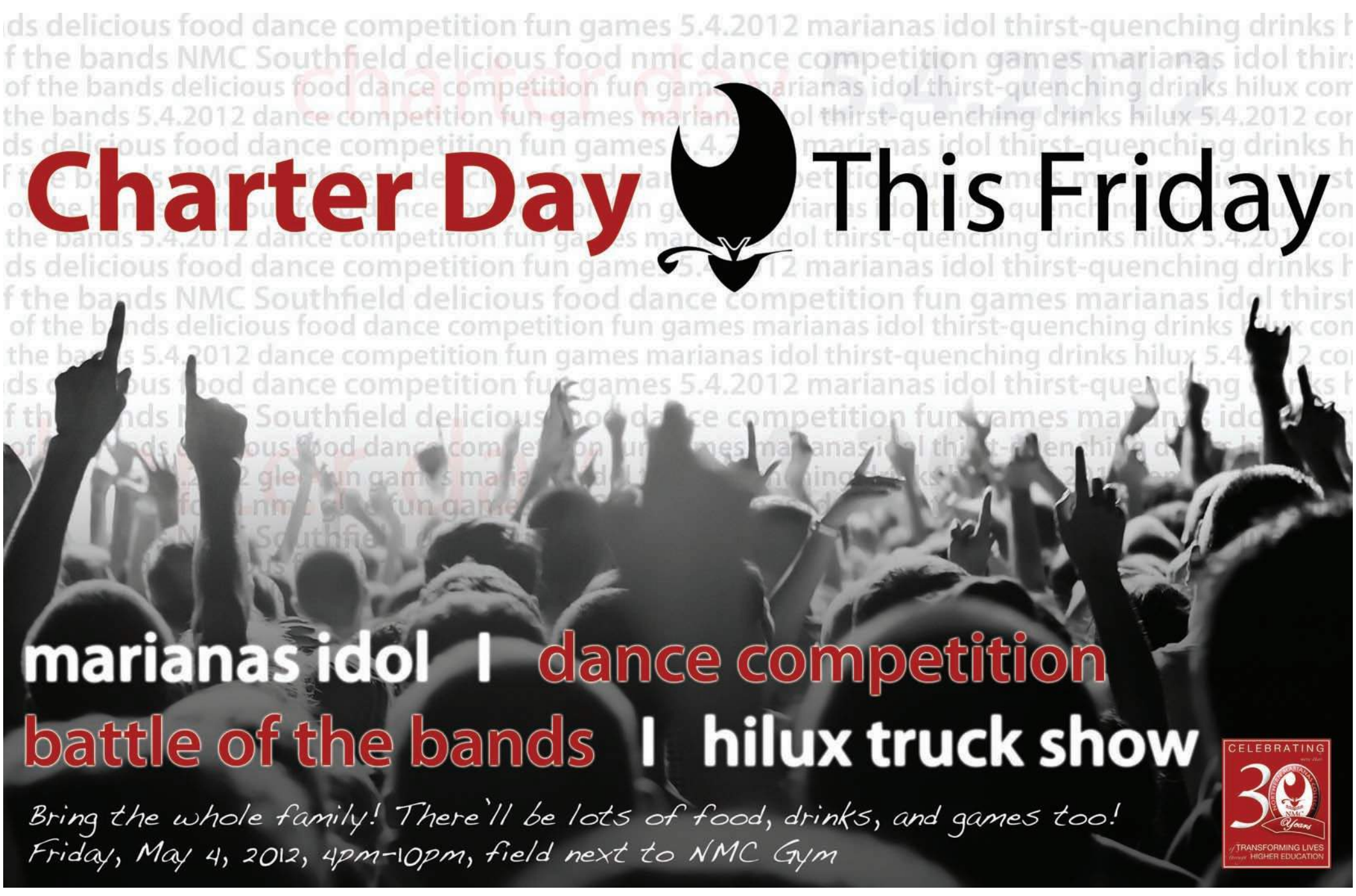
*Saipan Tribune* failed to obtain comments from the defendants yesterday.

The plaintiff is suing Thomas Manglona for violation of due process, malicious prosecution, and equal protection. The plaintiff is suing all defendants for conspiracy; Takai and Pelisamen for breach of contract; and Priority Care for tortious interference with existing contract.

August Healthcare is seeking unspecified damages and a court order preventing Thomas Manglona from harassing St. Michael's business and business relationships. It also wants the court to prevent Pelisamen and Takai from working for Priority Care and from soliciting St. Michael's customers and to prevent Priority Care from allegedly transporting and collecting fees from current and former St. Michael's customers.

August Healthcare also asked the court to stop Jack Manglona from allegedly contacting and soliciting St. Michael's customers and from offering bribes to current and former customers of St. Michael's.

Huesman alleged that Thomas Manglona has interfered with St. Michael's business licenses; provided false information about CNMI laws to companies overseeing St. Michael's Medicare compliance; required CNMI certifications that do not exist; and treating other private ambulance companies and government ambulances differently. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***


Charter Day This Friday
marianas idol | dance competition
battle of the bands | hilux truck show
Bring the whole family! There'll be lots of food, drinks, and games too!
Friday, May 4, 2012, 4pm-10pm, field next to NMC Gym
CELEBRATING 30 NMC years
TRANSFORMING LIVES HIGHER EDUCATION

# Ex-gubernatorial bet fears for his safety at DOC

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Businessman and former gubernatorial bet Juan Pan T. Guerrero asked the Superior Court yesterday to allow him to serve under house arrest for a drunk driving conviction instead of putting him in jail.

Guerrero expressed concern about his safety at the Department of Corrections considering that Ramon C. Mafnas has been reinstated at DOC commissioner.

Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo, however, ruled that he does not believe that Mafnas will harm Guerrero and ordered him to start serving the five-day prison term starting May 11, 2012. Govendo also required Guerrero to pay a $1,100 fine and suspended his driver's license for six months.

Attorney Steven P. Pixley, counsel for Guerrero, in a motion for reduction of sentence, stated that during a hearing on March 19, 2012, Guerrero, through his attorney, advised the court that he was concerned about his personal safety if he is required to serve five days in prison as ordered by the court.

Specifically, Pixley said, Guerrero fears that DOC Commissioner Mafnas may retaliate against him because of a dispute between the two parties relating to a bid for food services at DOC. Guerrero stated that Mafnas once acted like he was about to pull a gun in his presence.

Then Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona convicted Guerrero following a two-day bench trial in August 2010. Guerrero appealed but the CNMI Supreme Court affirmed Manglona's findings.

The case arose from an incident on the night of March 4, 2010, when Guerrero hit another vehicle on the northbound lane of Middle Road in Gualo Rai.

## ERRATUM

The 2012 Marianas March Against Cancer committee has incorrectly identified Team Joeten Foundation/Marianas High School as the team that won the Most Luminaries award at the event. The real winning team is Team Bodig. The committee said, "There was an oversight on the part of the teams that submitted their results and the accounting committee was unable to verify that until after the award had been presented. After the inaccuracy was noticed, we made the necessary corrections and informed the teams."

## NURSES

*From Page 1*

certification in the wake of the declining staffing level at the hospital.

Babauta said yesterday that the 30 nurses resigned mainly so they could withdraw their retirement contributions and are not part of the reduction-in-force efforts being implemented by the corporation.

CHC had 167 nurses when the corporation took over the operations of the hospital in October 2011.

Nursing director Leticia Reyes said during Friday's board meeting that a big percentage of nurses have expressed their intention to resign should the housing allowance among off-island hires be removed or reduced.

The nurses' resignation, Babauta noted, "cuts both ways."

"It's good because of the reduction-in-force. It's bad because it's really going to really cut deep into the staffing level for appropriate patient care, especially with respect to the certification standards of Medicare," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Still, Babauta said that they will not be hiring new nurses to replace those who have resigned. Instead, they are looking at having just a "skeleton staffing" which they can maintain at the various units and wards of the hospital.

Additionally, the hospital will lose in the coming months four of its doctors. Besides Dr. Michael Deary, former director for Medical Affairs who resigned in March, the others who have already given their notices are Dr. Michael Hart, anesthesiologist; Dr. Shun Young, general surgeon; and Dr. Brian Sullivan.

These doctors' resignation brings down to 22 the total number of doctors at CHC, on top of four physician assistants.

According to Babauta, the exodus of doctors would create a situation where it will be challenging to cover key services at the hospital such as labor and delivery and surgery.

When asked if the corporation plans to hire replacements for the doctors who have already resigned, Babauta said "it depends" and that they will have to work with Medical Affairs director Dr. Jeremy Richards to determine if services can still be continued after the four doctors leave.

"But we'll make some adjustments accordingly, so long as we're in consultation with Medicare so that we don't jeopardize our certification," added Babauta.

CHC is currently under a state of emergency due to circumstances requiring an immediate infusion of capital to address payroll shortages and vendor payments, among other critical financial issues.

**RELATED NEWS**

- OAG lawyer will continue to serve healthcare corp. **PAGE 2**
- Some lawmakers back subsidy for CHC but not $10M. **PAGE 3**

## LEGAL

*From Page 1*

whether those CW petitions are entitled to the housing allowance," said board chair Joaquin Torres during Friday's board meeting. "I would like the CEO to seek a legal opinion whether there's really legal entitlement."

The corporation provides a monthly housing allowance to employees who were hired from outside the CNMI. Unmarried ones get $600 while those with families get $800. Due to the scarcity of the corporation's resources, this benefit may be reduced, if not eliminated in its entirety.

After hearing the pleas of affected personnel on Friday, the board decided to create an employee committee that will convey their concerns to the management on how much they are willing to compromise on the benefit amount.

According to Torres, the housing benefits—now delayed for five months this week—will for now be provided to those with existing contracts that stipulate the housing commitment.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that many of those who were petitioned for CW visas are nurses who were recruited mostly from the Philippines. It was learned that no contracts have been provided them besides these petitions.

Many of the affected personnel told the board that they continue to work even without new contracts because they were informed by the corporation's human resource department that no changes will be made to their compensation package, which means they will continue to get their housing benefit.

Nursing director Leticia Reyes and director for Medical Affairs Dr. Jeremy Richards earlier warned the board that eliminating the housing allowance will result in the exodus of medical professionals from the hospital.

Reyes said that a "big percentage of nurses" have already expressed their intention to resign if the housing allowance is eliminated or further reduced.

Torres, for his part, stressed the corporation's need to keep these medical professionals.

"We need these folks. I think we need to meet halfway at least [in order to keep them]. Not paying their housing is not an option because we know the consequences," he added.

## LAWMAKERS

*From Page 1*

cluding House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan), House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), and Reps. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) and Ray Yumul (R-Saipan), said any reapportionment today will not cut down the number of lawmakers based on the reduced population of the smallest election district, which is Rota.

But still, some members including Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) and Tenorio are pushing to cut down the number of lawmakers through an initiative.

"I have been disappointed that my legislative initiative to reduce the number of Saipan lawmakers from 18 to nine has not moved. I introduced it since February 2011. Our population has decreased and our economy has decreased and one way of reducing government operational cost is reducing the number of lawmakers," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune*.

Palacios said some members are concerned or afraid that any cut in the number of seats will affect them in the November elections, "but that's not true."

"If that initiative is passed, it will not take effect until 2014," he added.

Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), chairman of the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations, separately said yesterday that he plans to hold a public hearing on Palacios' initiative next week.

Tenorio, however, has a separate draft legislative initiative that reduces the number of both the House and Senate members, among other things. He wants the House members reduced from 20 to 11, and senators from nine to six.

Tenorio, a former governor and speaker, also wants the lieutenant governor to be the Senate president.

He wants the salaries of lawmakers to be increased to $60,000 annually, and operational accounts to be $100,000. He said members may voluntarily pool all or any part of these funds. Tenorio said he'd ask Palacios if he could substitute his bill with that of his bill.

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) said he supports reducing the number of lawmakers but that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to get around the "one-man, one-vote policy."

### AG opinion

Buckingham issued a two-page legal opinion on Feb. 6, concluding that the 120-day period for the Legislature to promulgate a reapportionment or redistricting plan commenced on Jan. 5, 2012, "and will end on May 4, 2012."

"If the Legislature fails to act, the governor shall have an additional 120 days to promulgate a plan. Should the governor fail to act, the Commonwealth Supreme Court shall establish a plan," the AG said.

Lawmakers and the governor asked the Office of the Attorney General in January to determine whether the 120-day period began on Aug. 24, 2011, when the U.S. Census Bureau released Census 2010 data, or on Jan. 5, 2012, when census data included the population of each village.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that if the Legislature fails to come up with a reapportionment plan, "then Gov. Fitial will look into this issue within his allotted timeframe to ensure that reapportionment is reflective of the most current census data pertaining to the Commonwealth's population count."

Tenorio said it doesn't matter that the 120-day period for the Legislature to reapportion or redistrict is expiring, because he plans to reduce the number of lawmakers by constitutional amendment anyway.

He said it will now be up to the governor to decide on the reapportionment and redistricting.

"Probably it's faster for the governor to do it instead of leaving it up to the 29 members of the Legislature. But my recommendation to the governor, don't touch it, leave it alone," he added.

### 'Increase versus decrease'

Yumul said there is a sentiment that any reapportionment plan will not result in a reduction but will only maintain the same number of representation.

This has been the same sentiment that Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan) has been saying all along.

The basis for determining the number of Saipan House members is the population of the smallest election district, which is Rota as the Constitution requires, and cannot be determined arbitrarily, he said.

Sablan said if his interpretation is correct, one should divide Saipan's population by that of Rota's population based on the latest Census data, and this easily determines the proper number of House seats for Saipan. The answer is 19.

The current number of House members from Saipan is 18, and one each from Rota and Tinian.

The 2010 U.S. Census results show that Rota's population dropped to 2,527, from 3,283 in 2000. Saipan's population went down to 48,220 in 2010, from 62,392 in 2000.

Sablan believes the proposed reduction in the number of House Saipan members is done "arbitrarily." He said the "one-man, one-vote" policy to allow for equal representation is at work here.

Yumul and Sablan said there's already a precedent. For example, in 2007, two registered voters—former senator Frica Pangelinan and former representative Tina Sablan—asked the court to decide on reapportionment/redistricting when the Legislature and the governor failed to do so. At the time, the public expected the number of Saipan House seats to be reduced.

The court instead increased the number of Saipan House seats from 16 to 18 because of the "one-man, one-vote" principle, said Tony Sablan.

## GOVT

*From Page 1*

Huesman said during yesterday's board meeting that the Fitial administration has already communicated its plan to the Fund but he is confident that any motion to dismiss the case will not succeed.

The pension agency filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in the U.S. District Court on April 17 to allow it to restructure its obligations.

Press secretary Angel A. Demapan confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday the plan of the Fitial administration to fight the bankruptcy case.

"In the instant case, it is true that the Commonwealth, through the Office of the Attorney General anticipates filing certain pleadings which serve to challenge the pending bankruptcy petition," he said, adding that the basis for this action will be evident in the pleadings themselves and that any preliminary comment would be "inappropriate."

Demapan said that a formal case is expected to be filed within the next two weeks.

The Fund board's legal team earlier described the reaction of the Executive Branch as "receptive" when they informed it of the bankruptcy filing a few weeks ago.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt.Gov. Eloy Inos later expressed concern about the litigation cost the bankruptcy proceedings will incur the troubled agency, estimated to run in the millions.

A court judgment has determined that the central government owes the Fund about $317 million in unpaid employer contributions since 1999. Despite numerous efforts to collect from the government, nothing has succeeded, resulting in the Fund being forced to withdraw funds from its investment portfolio, which is now down to just over $250 million. To prolong the lifespan of the pension plan, the board filed for bankruptcy so it could reorganize the pension program.

"The Fund is confident that the current motion and any other motions to dismiss the case will fail. The central government has made their intention and communicated that they're going to file. But we don't believe those would be successful," said Huesman yesterday, adding that the issue was thoroughly examined by the legal team and the board prior to the filing.

However, he pointed out that the final say still lies with the bankruptcy court, which is expected to render a decision on several motions at the June 1 hearing.

Two unnamed retirees have already filed a motion to dismiss the Chapter 11 bankruptcy case, to be decided by the bankruptcy court at its next hearing. They are represented by attorneys Bruce Jorgensen and Stephen Woodruff.

Huesman said that in the event the court dismisses this motion, the same motion that will be filed by the central government will become moot.

Meantime, Huesman said that the Fund does not intend at this time to file for other chapter petitions under the Bankruptcy Code despite the broad authority of Fund administrator Richard Villagomez.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that one of the motions adopted by the Fund board prior to the bankruptcy filing was to authorize Villagomez to file for other chapter petitions under the Bankruptcy Code if necessary.

According to Huesman, "The Fund reserves all its rights to use all legal remedies" but stressed that focus of the board right now is the Chapter 11 filing and its proceedings.

He said the board knows that "Chapter 11 is the best fit for the Fund at this time."

# Sixto's nomination withdrawn for resubmission to the Senate

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial withdrew his re-appointment of Sixto K. Igisomar to serve on the NMI Retirement Fund board on Thursday, a few days before his nomination expires on Sunday amid some senators' strong opposition to his re-appointment.

Had the governor allowed the 90-day period to lapse without recalling Igisomar's re-nomination, the governor could not re-appoint Igisomar to the same position.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations, said yesterday that the EAGI panel had already made known its position to recommend full Senate rejection of Igisomar's nomination.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the Fitial administration recalled Igisomar's nomination "in an effort to afford the EAGI the time it needed to further review documents relative to Mr. Igisomar's previous term on the Fund board."

"In renominating Mr. Igisomar to serve a second term, the administration strongly believes that he can continue to be a tremendous asset especially at this very critical juncture of the NMI Retirement Fund," Demapan said.

He also said Igisomar has faithfully served on numerous boards and commissions.

"With this recall, Gov. Fitial is hopeful that the EAGI may be able to conduct its review and favorably consider Mr. Igisomar to once again represent the Carolinian community on the board of trustees should the opportunity present itself again," Demapan added.

The Senate, by holding off action on the contentious EAGI Committee report, almost just allowed the 90-day period to lapse without acting on the governor's nomination.

Senators said the 90-day period was supposed to lapse on April 29. Fitial withdrew the renomination on April 26.

On Jan. 30, Fitial renominated Igisomar to serve another four-year term on the Fund board representing Carolinians. Igisomar used to chair the Fund board. His appointment requires the advice and consent of the Senate.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) acknowledged receiving Fitial's letter on Thursday but declined to comment on it.

The EAGI report said Igisomar is "overloaded with the two time-consuming positions, as it is understandably

Igisomar

difficult to oversee a principle (sic) government agency and the assets of a depleting pension plan."

Igisomar is the current Department of Commerce secretary. He used to serve both as Commerce secretary and Fund board chair.

Cruz's committee also said that as chairman of the Fund board, Igisomar "failed to take action on the breach of contract of the Retirement Fund's computer software system against the contractor."

The EAGI panel was referring to businessman Gary Sword and his Express Electronics. The Fund only recently sued Sword and Express Electronics for their allegedly defective pension software that has already cost the Fund $406,060.

Cruz's committee was also "disappointed" with Igisomar's submission of documents detailing the exorbitant costs for legal fees associated with the Fund.

"The committee finds it very disturbing that Mr. Igisomar did not monitor such expensive legal fees, a prudent practice that a trustee must have during these economic times. Furthermore, a trustee's fiduciary role should focus on the management of investment decisions, which should be made solely in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries," the panel said.

Cruz, in an interview yesterday, said lawmakers were also disappointed that the Fund kept under wraps its plan to file a Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

"The Senate, especially Sen. Taimanao's committee, has been working with the Fund but for them to keep the bankruptcy filing a secret until after they filed it is disappointing," Cruz added.

# DOJ: Suit vs federalization barred

The U.S. Department of Justice is asking the federal court to dismiss as barred a local businessman's lawsuit that seeks to stop the implementation of the federalization law in the CNMI.

DOJ's senior litigation counsel Theodore W. Atkinson, argued that Joaquin Q. Atalig is in privity with the CNMI with respect to the CNMI's prior unsuccessful lawsuit to stop the implementation of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act under Covenant and constitutional grounds.

Atalig's legal claims are either identical to the claims brought by the CNMI or are claims that are shared among all citizens of the Commonwealth and could have been brought in the CNMI lawsuit, said Atkinson.

"The court should therefore dismiss this action because it is barred *res judicata,*" Atkinson said.

*Res judicata*, also known as claim preclusion, bars litigation in a subsequent action of any claims that were raised or could have been raised in the prior action.

Atalig, through counsel Joseph E. Horey, filed the lawsuit against Obama, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, State Secretary Hillary Clinton, U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, and U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.

Atalig wants the court to declare the CNRA (i.e., federalization law) lawfully unenforceable and that its implementation and enforcement is valid and lawful only with the consent of the people of the CNMI.

Atkinson earlier argued that Atalig cannot relitigate claims that the CNMI government had already litigated and lost more than two years ago.

The CNMI government brought the first lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in 2008. The district court dismissed the CNMI's challenge to the CNRA on Nov. 25, 2009, and entered a final judgment in the case last year.

In pleadings filed with the district court on Thursday, Atkinson said that when a state (or territory) seeks to vindicate either sovereign or quasi-sovereign rights and is unsuccessful, the state's citizens are bound by the final judgment in that action.

"Thus, state-citizen privity exists between Atalig and the CNMI for *res judicata* purposes," the lawyer said.

In his opposition to the motion to dismiss, Atalig, through counsel, argued that the doctrine of *parens patriae* does not create privity between himself and the CNMI because the CNMI filed the lawsuit to protect its own sovereign interests and not the interests of the CNMI's citizens.

*Parens patriae* refers to a doctrine that empowers the government or state to be the guardian to the ones who are unable to protect themselves or look after themselves legally.

Atkinson said that regardless of the label, what matters is what where a state brings an action over a matter of common public right—whether characterized as a sovereign or quasi-sovereign interest—a judgment against the state in that action is *res judicata* as to that state's citizens, who stand in privity with the state.

Accordingly, Atkinson said, because the CNMI brought the lawsuit over either sovereign or quasi-sovereign interests, there is privity between the CNMI and its citizens—including Atalig. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

AN EPIC PHONE DESERVES
THE BEST NETWORK
Samsung
GALAXY S II
Epic 4G Touch
$449*
To date considered one of the greatest CDMA devices ever created for CDMA technology is finally available from IT&E, the amazing Samsung Galaxy SII Epic 4G Touch! Boasting a large 4.5" Hi-Res Touch Screen Display that is extremely responsive and offers amazing color and definition, the Galaxy SII Epic 4G Touch also sports a super fast 1.2 Dual Core Processor, 8mp rear and 2mp front camera that shoots 1080P HD Video, a surprisingly super thin and light design, and Android's 2.3 Gingerbread OS making it the most coveted cellular device in the world today!
1.2GHz Dual-Core Processor
4.5" Super AMOLED+ Touchscreen
HD1080P Video Recording
8MP Rear-Facing Camera
2MP Front-Facing Camera
htcDesire
$199**
• GSM Quad Band
• Android 2.1 OS
• 1GHz Scorpion Processor
• Wi-Fi Capable
• 3.7" AMOLED Touch Screen
• Optical Trackpad Navigation
• 5 Mp Camera
• Video Recording
• Memory Card Slot
• Stereo Bluetooth
pocket ANDROID PLAN
$39 per month
500 Local Minutes
UNLIMITED Local SMS
UNLIMITED POCKET ANDROID DATA
IT&E
Life in Motion
682-4ITE (4483)
www.ite.net
customercare@itehq.net
*Some conditions apply • Must sign up for 24 months agreement on Android 500 Plan or higher. • New Accounts Only
** Must sign up for 12 months agreement on Pocket Android Plan of higher. • New Accounts Only
Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483)
Chalan LauLau Customer Care Ofc. • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza)
New Store Hours • Wireless Express Center (TSL Plaza) Tuesday to Saturday • 10:00AM - 6:00PM

# KKMP goes bald to raise money, awareness of childhood cancer

## »Radiothon exceeds close to $1,440 goal

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The stage at the 2012 Marianas March Against Cancer was transformed into a barbershop Friday night as management and staff of radio station KKMP had their heads shaved for their "Be Bold, Go Bald" campaign after exceeding their goal to raise $1,440 for cancer research for children.

Bald was certainly beautiful for the seven who were inspired by family members and friends who have battled, are still undergoing treatment, or have passed on due to cancer, letting chunks of their hair pile up on the floor for a good cause.

A title sponsor for the largest cancer fundraising event each year, KKMP launched its "Be Bold, Go Bald" campaign to raise at least $1,440 by accepting pledges through its radiothon aired on 1440AM and 92.1FM.

The amount reached close to $2,000 and the KKMP team kept their word and went bald before thousands of spectators at the event, which was aired live.

First on the head-shaving block of Pena House Salon volunteer Chona Bringas was Gordon Marciano or DJ Big Daddy G, followed by Herb Sablan, Gary Sword, and his wife Rosemond Santos.

"What we're doing is really nothing compared to what these kids have to go through," said Santos. "There are miracles and that's what we hope to symbolize tonight."

Joining the KKMP team on stage were at least three more individuals, including Vicenta Teregeyo of Kagman III, who wiped tears as the electric razor slowly sheared her short white hair.

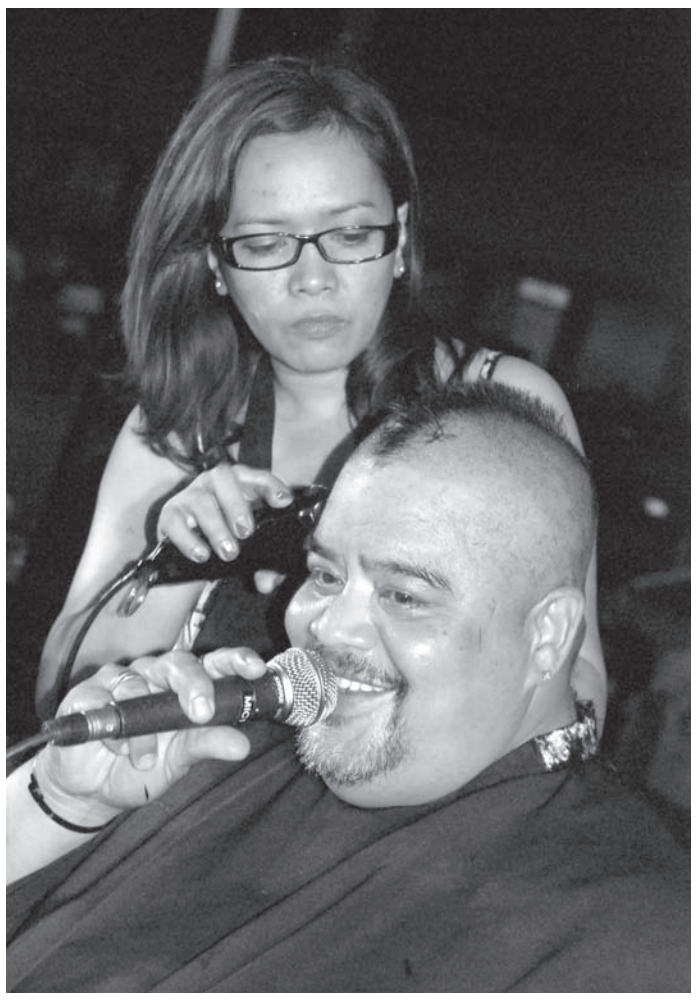
Teregeyo, who was cheered by family members, said in an interview afterwards that she dedicates her going bald to her four siblings, all of whom died due to the deadly disease.

"They know I'm crazy that I'm doing it for them," said Teregeyo, laughing softly.

Teregeyo said it was her faith as a Christian that helped her through her siblings' deaths, which she still mourns up to now.

"For the people that are still alive now, they have to go and face God. Ask God for forgiveness, for them to forgive people, and to forgive themselves," she said.

KKMP's Santos, who will donate her hip-length hair to the non-profit group Wigs for Kids, dedicated her head-shaving effort to family members battling or have passed on because of cancer, including her father Jose T. Santos who died in 2005, and her uncle Thomas J. Camacho who is still undergoing treatment.



CLARISSA V. DAVID
Gordon Marciano of KKMP gets his head shaved by Pena House Salon's Chona Bringas as part of the radio station's "Be Bold, Go Bald" campaign during the 2012 Marianas March Against Cancer event last Friday.

"This was something I've always wanted to do for a very long time," Santos told *Saipan Tribune*. "I didn't know when the right time was and this year, not knowing that this was the 10th year of MMAC, we just decided to join in the effort to bring about awareness."

While she was surprised that others joined them in the campaign, Santos underscored that "love knows no boundaries."

Camacho, Santos' uncle, said he was very touched by the gesture. In October 2011, Camacho was diagnosed with colorectal cancer that metastasized to his liver. He is currently undergoing treatment. He encouraged those who are battling cancer to have trust and faith in God and to maintain a healthy lifestyle by having proper diet and doing exercise.

"Just keep the spirit up. That's what counts. Enjoy life everyday as it passes by," added Camacho.

Sword, for his part, thanked all those who donated to the cause. The proceeds, he said, will be endorsed to the MMAC committee after they collect all the pledges. Sword commended the MMAC committee and the entire community who all came together to support the battle against cancer.

"This is the first time that it's been done and we're very glad to be the frontrunner in this," said Sword about the head-shaving campaign, adding that they expect to be back next year.

# CRA wants role as 'creditor' in Fund bankruptcy proceedings

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Retirement Association board chair Lorenzo LG. Cabrera has asked the U.S. District Court for the NMI Bankruptcy Division to include the organization as a creditor in the NMI Retirement Fund's Chapter 11 proceedings.

As this developed, the Commonwealth Ports Authority, through counsel Robert T. Torres, filed in court Friday a notice of entry of appearance as an intervenor in the proceedings.

In a letter to the court filed Friday, Cabrera said that when he received word from a third-party that the Fund trustees were meeting a week ago, he immediately called CRA treasurer Oscar C. Camacho and asked him to plead with the trustees to consider putting off their plan to file for bankruptcy.

"We contend that the trustees' plan is both untimely and unwarranted," Cabrera said.

He said the amount of money the Fund now has for its operation and payment to pension benefits to retirees and other creditors is adequate for another two years or until July 2014—a timeframe that is more than adequate for the CNMI government to put in place viable solutions to rectify the Fund's conditions.

At the same time, Cabrera pointed out that the Fund has had ample time to use every legal remedy to collect on the Superior Court's judgment in June 2009, but instead it chose to employ a process that could effectively deny beneficiaries their pension benefits, which to most retirees are the only source of income for all their financial needs.

"A good number of retirees, who are old and ill, especially those who are on dialysis, could (sic) care less if the Fun lives beyond June 2014. They want their pension and they want it without reduction," he said.

Cabrera said the action of the trustees to file for bankruptcy was "unnecessary and insensitive."

He said the court needs to defer all actions necessary for restructuring to the CNMI government as the government alone has the authority to decide whether the Fund should continue to exist, be abolished, or be replaced by a different program.

The next bankruptcy hearing will be on June 1 at 9:30am.

U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Hawaii Chief Bankruptcy Judge Robert J. Faris will be conducting the hearing.

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
*"This Notice is paid for with HUD funds by NMHC"*

**April 3, 2012**

Governor Benigno R. Fitial, Lt. Governor Eloy Inos, and the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman, Ms. Marcie M. Tomokane, wish to announce that NMHC has revised its FY 2013 Annual Plan and is available for the public's review and comment. The Annual Plan encompasses the goals, objectives, and strategies of NMHC's Program and Housing Division and the Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8). Comments may be directed to:

Mr. Jesse S. Palacios
Acting Corporate Director
NMHC Central Office
P.O. Box 500514
Saipan, MP 96950

Comments may also be faxed to (670) 234-9021. The Annual Plan is also available for public review and comment at NMHC's Central Office located on Micro Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, as well as at the respective NMHC Field Offices on Tinian and Rota during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, except on CNMI holidays. The deadline for the comment period is at 4:30 pm on Thursday, May 3, 2012.

/s/ **Jesse S. Palacios**
Acting Corporate Director

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING**

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, May 4, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor, Captain George F. Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

**AGENDA**

I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (February 9, 2012)

II. **CORRESPONDENCES**

III. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
1. Financial Affairs Committee
2. Airport Facilities Committee
3. Seaport Facilities Committee
4. Personnel Affairs Committee

IV. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

V. **OLD BUSINESS**
1. None

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
1. First International Corporation proposal for Tinian
2. Supplemental Budget Request: Tinian Pier/Underwater Assessment
3. Personnel Matter
4. Tinian Marine Stevedores, Inc.
5. Lease Assignment from CTSI to POI Aviation
6. Star Marianas Air
7. Freedom Air
8. SN-5 Lease Agreement for Aquaculture on Tinian

VII. **MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**

VIII. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

IX. **EXECUTIVE SESSION/Legal Counsel Report**

X. **ADJOURNMENT**

*All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.*

**JOSE R. LIFOIFOI**
Chairman, Board of Directors
April 30, 2012

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Zoning Planner**

The Commonwealth Zoning Board is seeking qualified applicants for the position of Zoning Planner. This is a full-time position on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

**Duties and Responsibilities:** Manage complex permit applications including pre-application consultations, application intake, review for compliance, assuring compliance with timelines and public notice requirements, coordinating interagency consultations, and preparation of project recommendations and reports as assigned by the Administrator; Prepare recommended updates to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan, Zoning Law, Zoning Board regulations, and zoning office guidelines; Coordinate, as appropriate, with other agencies and secure project reviews and recommendations; Identify and seek resolution of interdepartmental concerns; Educate and inform the public and applicants about the Saipan Zoning Law and related permit requirements and procedures; Maintain records using paper and electronic media and a Geographic Information System; Perform other duties as assigned.

**Minimum Requirements:** Graduation from an accredited four year college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in engineering, architecture, urban planning, environmental science, geography, economics, political science, natural science, business administration, or related field, plus a minimum of 5 years experience in any combination of land use planning, zoning, business administration, public health, environmental management, public policy, natural resource management, land management, or related field. Other requirement includes proficiency with office software including MS Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Outlook Explorer;

The salary range is from $38,000 to $40,000, commensurate with qualifications and experience. Health, life and retirement benefits are provided. Information about the Zoning Board and the Zoning Office may be viewed at the Zoning Board website: www.zoning.gov.mp. Application submittals should be addressed to Theresa T. Ogumoro, Acting Zoning Administrator. Submittals may be sent via e-mail, FAX, U.S. mail, or hand delivered to the address below. Submittals must include a letter of interest, a CNMI Application For Employment, and a resume. The Application for Employment may be downloaded from the publications page of the Zoning Board website. Applicants must be US citizens, permanent residents or immediate relatives. Send submittals to: E-mail: Therese.Ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp. FAX: 670-234-9666. US Mail: Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 USA. Hand Delivery: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

**The deadline to receive application and all requirements is May 10th, 2012 at 4:30pm.**

# Congressional dining room features CNMI food specialties

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— Last week the Members' Dining Room at the U.S. House of Representative served up food specialties of the Northern Mariana Islands as part of a program to "Celebrate America" with recipes from each state and territory. A three-course meal of *kelaguen mannok* (lemon coconut chicken), *pork ribs estufao*, and *madoya aga'* (fried banana) was on the menu for Members of Congress, their staff and visitors.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) was asked to recommend dishes that would reflect the Marianas and his staff worked with the chefs at the Dining Room to assure that everything would be prepared authentically—right down to the banana leaf on which the food was served.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Members' Dining Room at the U.S. House of Representative serves up *kelaguen mannok* (lemon coconut chicken) as part of a program to "Celebrate America" with recipes from each state and territory.

The Members' Dining Room was established in 1858 at the direction of Speaker of the House James Orr, after the Capitol building was expanded. Prior to that a simple refectory run by local vendors provided food for congressmen.

Sablan has never been to the Member's Dining Room. He does not feel it would be appropriate when many of the people he represents do not have enough to eat. Sablan typically has his meals at his office desk. He expressed thanks, however, to the Members' Dining Room for including the Northern Marianas in Celebrate America and for preparing the island foods so well. ***(PR)***

# Hillbroom appeals dismissal of suit vs Vietnam-based lawyer

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Junior Larry Hillbroom, the reported DNA-proven son of the late business tycoon Larry Lee Hillblom, is appealing to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit a federal court ruling that dismissed his lawsuit against his former lawyer who is now based in Vietnam.

Hillbroom, through counsel, filed Thursday in the U.S. District Court his notice of appeal. He is appealing to reverse the district court's Jan. 26, 2012, decision that dismissed his lawsuit against attorney Barry J. Israel. He is also seeking to reverse the district court's final dismissal judgment issued on April 5, 2012, on his claim against Israel.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Hillbroom's lawsuit against Israel on Jan. 26, 2012, for lack of personal jurisdiction. In granting Israel's motion to dismiss, Manglona said the court does not decide the lawyer's other asserted defenses.

Manglona said that Hillbroom's lawsuit was filed in 2010, nine years after Israel moved from the CNMI and ceased meaningful contacts with the forum.

"To make Israel answer in the CNMI today for any and all actions that arose long ago when he maintained substantial activities here, regardless of whether those actions were related to the forum, would not comport with the notions of 'fair play and substantial justice' that underpin personal jurisdiction," said Manglona in the order.

In January, Manglona denied Guam attorney David J. Lujan's motion to dismiss a cross-complaint filed against him by a former trustee of the Junior Larry Hillbroom Trust. She ruled that Lujan's improper-venue defense is meritless.

Hillbroom filed separate lawsuits against his former lawyers Israel and David J. Lujan in district court for allegedly conspiring to inflate their attorney's contingency fee when Hillblom's fortune was still undergoing probate proceedings. He also named his former trustee Keith A. Waibel as co-defendant.

# $20 registration fee waived for NMC Hilux Truck Show

The Northern Marianas College, along with Power 99 and Microl Toyota, is inviting community members to sign up to participate in the CNMI's first ever Hilux Truck Show. In an effort to encourage more Hilux owners to join the competition, the event's planning committee has decided to waive the $20 fee.

Microl Toyota also announced that they will be donating iPads, as well as other prizes, to the winning trucks.

"NMC has had car shows before but this is the first time we're hosting a Hilux Truck Show," said L.J. Castro, program coordinator for the Office of Student Leadership and Activities. "We're inviting owners of Saipan's hottest low riders to come out and join in the fun."

Those interested in participating in the Hilux Truck Show must register before NMC Charter Day on May 4, 2012. Again, the $20 registration fee has been waived. Showtime is between 5pm and 9pm.

Applications forms are available for download at www.nmcnet.edu, or can be picked up at the NMC Student Center in Building J. For more information, contact Castro at 234-5498 Ext. 1251/1253 or email luisjohnc@nmcnet.edu.

**» iPad prizes for winners**

The NMC 2012 Charter Day Committee will be giving out the Best in Show Award to competitors at the end of the competition. The sponsors for this event are Microl Toyota and Power 99.

NMC Charter Day is an annual celebration that commemorates the establishment of the college in 1981. It is one of the largest celebrations in the CNMI. This year's event will take place on May 4, 2012, from 4pm to 10pm at NMC As Terlaje campus.

For more information about NMC Charter Day competitions, entertainment or vendor information, visit www.nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

# State regulators take up insurance, reforms

CNMI Commerce Secretary Sixto K. Igisomar and fellow members of the National Association of Insurance Commissionersmet in the nation's capital last week to confer with members of Congress about ongoing insurance-related efforts.

More than 36 state insurance regulators gathered for the NAIC Washington Forum where they were briefed by Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, Deputy Treasury Secretary Neal S. Wolin, Deputy Director for Oversight and Senior Research Fellow for Health Policy Studies for the Heritage Foundation Edmund Haislmaier. Rep. Judy Biggert (R-IL), chairperson of the House Financial Services Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity, also addressed regulators.

NAIC members also met with their congressional representatives to discuss:

- Dodd-Frank reform provisions such as the Federal Insurance Office and the Financial Services Oversight Council.
- State implementation efforts for health care reform.
- Proposed changes to the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers (H.R. 1112) legislation.

In addition, regulators urged congressional delegates to consider long-term reauthorization of the National Flood Insurance Program.

"Meeting members of Congress in Washington, D.C. helps to reinforce the connection between actions at the federal level and the impact it has back home," said Igisomar. "State regulators are the best resource to help D.C. policymakers understand how we can work together to protect consumers and promote competitive insurance markets in the CNMI." ***(Office of the Governor)***

# Judiciary guests on *Your Humanities' Half-Hour Radio*

Acting chief justice Alexandro C. Castro and Justice John A. Manglona were recently accompanied by former judge Timothy Bellas and "We the People" student coach Carmen Borja for the taping of an edition of the radio program *Your Humanities' Half Hour,* hosted by Catherine Perry for the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities.

The show was heard on Power 99 on Sunday, April 29. During the program the group discussed a variety of community outreach and education efforts involving the Judiciary and its facilities, including the "We the People" competition, Law Day Poster and Essays Contests for elementary schools, and the Judges in the Classroom program. Judges in the Classroom is an ongoing educational effort that involves members of the Judiciary and its staff along with CNMI Bar Association members who visit classrooms throughout the Commonwealth and speak about the court system, the making of laws, and civic responsibility.

Law Week 2012 activities at the Guma Hustisia – Limwal Aweewe conclude this year on Thursday, May 3, with the Attorney Generals' Cup held in the CNMI Supreme Court courtroom, beginning at 8am.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, former judge Timothy Bellas, acting chief justice Alexandro C. Castro, Justice John A. Manglona, and "We the People" student coach Carmen Borja appear on the radio program *Your Humanities' Half Hour,* hosted by Catherine Perry, right.

In the final segment of the radio show's taping, Bellas, joined by Northern Marianas Judiciary Historic Society executive director Jim Stowell, reflected on the numerous individual contributions that resulted in the publication of the *Northern Marianas Judiciary – a Historical Perspective* by the Judiciary Historical Society. The award winning and Library of Congress registered book includes numerous pictures and chronicles the evolution of the judicial system in the Northern Marianas from the Spanish times through the Trust Territories era and into to the present, when a fully functioning and independent judiciary exists.

A link to the radio program can be found at the bottom right of the CNMI Judiciary's home page at http://www.justice.gov.mp/ - "Your Humanities' Half Hour Radio Interviews - Law Week and *Historical Perspective."* ***(PR)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Chamber meeting tomorrow

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will host its May general membership meeting tomorrow, May 2, 2012, at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Sandcastle Ballroom. Luncheon begins at 11:30am, and the meeting will begin at 12pm. Luncheon fees are $20 for SCC members, $30 for guests and the public.

This month's agenda includes a presentation by the Citizens for Change of Article 12 and their efforts to place an initiative to either repeal, or retain, Article 12 of the CNMI Constitution on this November's ballot.

A short presentation by the CNMI Water Task Force's Kay Delafield will be offered as well. ***(SCC)***

### Memorial Day preparations

The CNMI is celebrating Memorial Day on Monday, May 28, 2012, 9am at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery. The Veterans Affairs Director and its Committee will be paying tribute to our fallen heroes and is inviting the immediate families to join the community in paying tribute to them. The immediate family is being asked to call the Veterans Affairs office for details at 664-2650/2659 or 287-5351. ***(PR)***

### SSHS report cards out Thursday

Term 4 mid-progress report is scheduled to be picked up on Thursday, May 3, from 3pm to 6pm. Teachers will be in their classrooms for parents and legal guardians visit. All students will be released at 1:05pm. ***(PR)***

### Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

- May 1 from 9am to 6am
- May 2-3 from 8am to 5am
- May 4 from 9am to 7pm.

The Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on May 2-3 from 8am to 5pm.

The public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. ***(PR)***

### Judiciary schedule for May

During May 2012 the courthouses on all three islands will be open with full operations except as noted below.

**Saipan:**

- Limited operation on Friday, May 4, 2012
- Closed on Monday, May 28, for Memorial Day

On days of limited operations, only essential services of the Office of the Clerk of Court, the Office of Adult Probation Services, the Family Court Division, the Marshal Service Division, and Judicial Chambers will be provided. Courts will address certain docket requirements, emergency and related prescheduled matters. The Administrative Services Unit (cashier), Information Systems Unit, Building & Maintenance Unit, Office of the Commonwealth Recorder, Law Revision Commission, and Judiciary Administrative Office will be closed.

**Tinian:** Closed on May 28 for Memorial Day

The CNMI Judicial Council will meet again on May 9, 2012. The hours of operation for June will be publicized after the meeting on the CNMI Judiciary website, http://www.justice.gov.mp/.

Additional information may be obtained by calling the Clerk of Court's office phone number, 236-9765 on Saipan, 433-3410 on Tinian and 532-9422 Rota, or by contacting the Supreme Court's Public Information Office at 236-9716. ***(PR)***

# Flashback

## A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### May 1, 2000

**MTC begins charging 411 calls**

Do you want to find out a certain phone number and can't grab a directory? Think twice before dialing 411. Beginning today, the MTC, the lone domestic phone provider in the Northern Marianas, will charge callers of 411 a 25 cent toll fee after exhausting the three free calls allowed per month for the use of its directory assistance. The move is intended to discourage people from using the 411 to ask for phone numbers, which has cost MTC additional expenses for overtime pay for its operators who are using the 24-hour computer service put in place by the company.

**CUC cancels power outage in DOC area**

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation last Friday canceled at the last minute the next day's scheduled power outage in several areas south of Saipan to prevent potential jailbreak in the Division of Corrections. The correctional facility apparently has yet to install a back-up electrical system in case of outages in CUC's main power switch, thus affecting its operations in the event that the utility firm cuts supply to Chalan Kanoa and Susupe area. CUC earlier had scheduled a power outage for April 29, lasting between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. that would have hit the DOC in Susupe. This would have given way for its crews to undertake electrical improvements in the two adjacent villages.

### May 1, 2001

**House overrides Teno's veto on sick leave bill**

The House of Representatives yesterday underscored the need to establish a more realistic policy in the administration of sick leave bank as legislators moved to override Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's veto on the proposed amendments to Public Law 8-25. Thirteen of the 18 members of the House of Representatives voted for an override of the governor's rejection of House Bill 12-147, which proposed to establish an independent Civil Service Commission. Of the 18 House members, 16 voted to establish a measure that would put additional 360 hours to the existing 160 hours of sick leave a government employee is entitled to receive.

**Proposed marine sanctuary junked**

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio has tossed back to the Legislature a proposed measure that sought to designate a section of the Tanapag lagoon as a permanent marine sanctuary. Mr. Tenorio said House Local Bill 12-27 contains several concerns that must be appropriately addressed before it could become law. This, as the governor stressed that he supports the protection, preservation and conservation of marine life. "In fact, I have signed numerous measures seeking to protect and preserve our natural resources including marine life." Mr. Tenorio pointed out that mandatory importation of non-native species of marine life from outside of the Commonwealth raises a concern.

### May 1, 2002

**Street naming project gets $62K**

The Street Naming Project for Saipan got a much-needed boost, after Gov. Juan N. Babauta signed into law a bill reallocating $62,000 for the second phase of the project. Just before leaving on a trip to South Korea to promote the Commonwealth as a tourism destination, Babauta inked House Bill 13-67, which reallocates the unspent money that was originally appropriated under Public Law 11-83. That appropriation law was for the A&E Construction of the Hemodialysis Building Center and its collateral equipment. The unexpended balance, amounting to $62,000, will now be re-channeled to supplement prior appropriations for Phase II of the Saipan Street Naming and Property Number Project.

**Firms offer CPA funding opportunities**

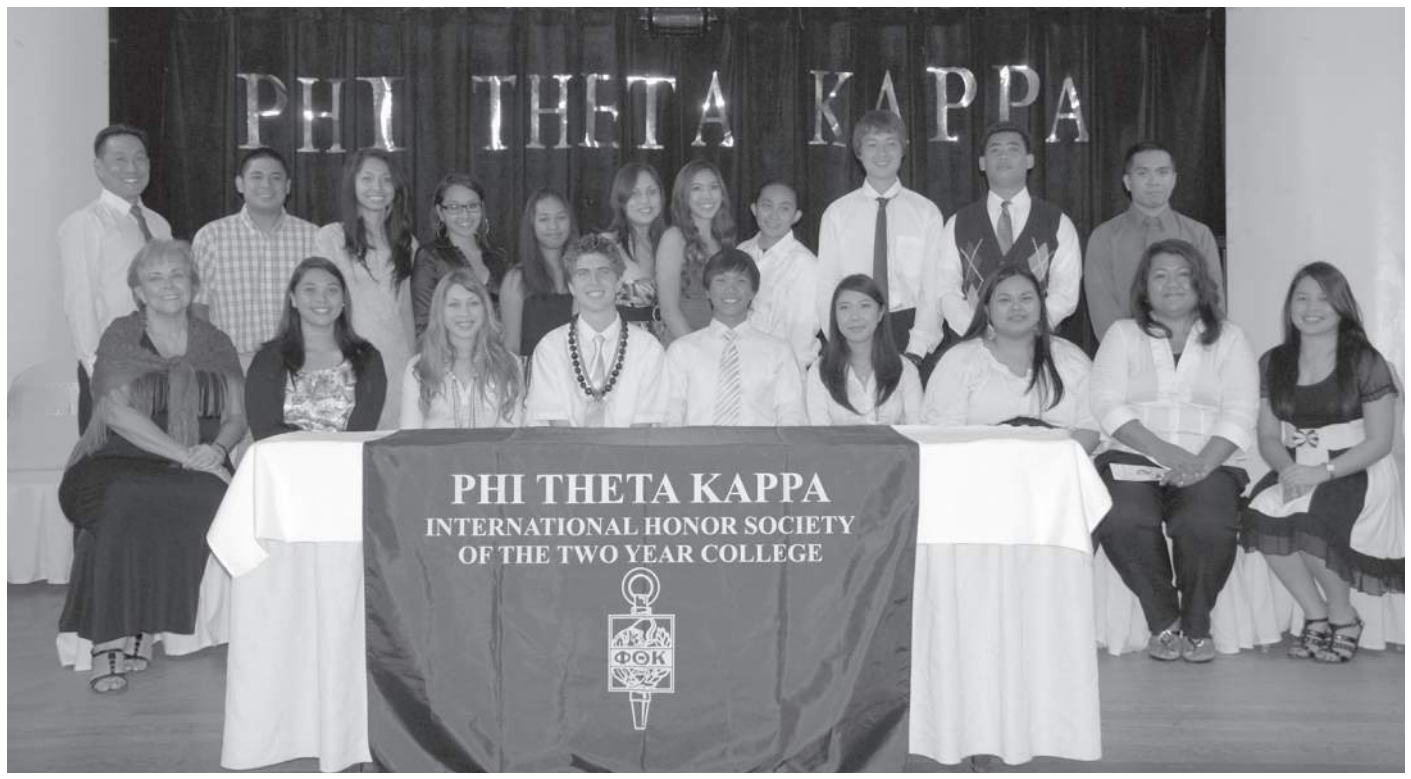
A financial group will hold discussion with the Commonwealth Ports Authority to tackle potential funding opportunities for airport and seaport operations in the Northern Marianas. Guam-based Public Finance Associates and Financial Solutions Group officials scheduled a round table discussion with CPA officials to present a variety of options, which may be useful to the ports authority. "The purpose of the meeting is to discuss potential funding opportunities and present to CPA officials a variety of options which are useful in the agency's plan to improve its revenue stream or reduce its current debt service payment obligations," said FSG Vice President Joe Morcilla.

# NMC honor society inducts 16 new members

The Northern Marianas College Beta Lambda Psi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society celebrated the induction of 16 new members into the Society on Saturday, March 31. Family, friends, NMC president Sharon Hart, ASNMC president Lawrence Camacho, faculty, and PTK members joined in the festivities at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret to honor the new inductees.

In order to qualify for membership in Phi Theta Kappa, students must distinguish themselves by maintaining a 3.5 cumulative grade point average, in addition to serving and contributing to the Commonwealth through various community service and leadership activities.

The 13 newest full members include students from the business, hospitality management, education, natural resource management, nursing, and liberal arts majors: Severino Alforeza, Rachelle Alturas, Esperlyne Castro, Hilma Castro, Shane Golingo, Geraldine Hofschneider, Olivia Leung, Alvijane Manabat, Anne Padilla, Angel San Nicolas, Nisha Shrestha, Harrison Smith, and Evert Van Der Maas. Also welcomed into the chapter were three new provisional members: Ericka Dela Rosa, Peachy Rasa, and Alex Shen.




NMC

NMC Phi Theta Kappa Spring 2012 inductees, members, NMC president Sharon Hart, and adviser Larry Lee following their recent induction ceremony.

The induction ceremony was carried out by the current PTK officers president Elowena Camacho, vice president Dyenina Diaz, recording secretary Beatrice Mesngon, membership secretary Robert Deleon Guerrero, public relations officer Stacey Demapan, treasurer Joserin Mendiola, and faculty adviser Larry Lee.

NMC faculty member Sam McPhetres was the keynote speaker for the event, and he inspired the audience with a very motivating keynote address. The new officers for the upcoming 2013 academic year were also officially installed: president Stacey Demapan, vice president Olivia Leung, recording secretary Beatrice Mesngon, membership secretary Harrison Smith, public relations officer Derek Leung and treasurer Geraldine Hofschneider. The formal induction ceremony was followed by a delicious buffet.

An international organization, Phi Theta Kappa has recognized academic excellence, leadership, and service in two-year colleges since 1918. It is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1.5 million members and 1,200 chapters located in the 50 United States, U.S. territories, Canada, and Germany. Phi Theta Kappa's mission is two-fold: (1) to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students; and (2) to provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in honors, leadership, service and fellowship programming.

For additional information about the NMC chapter, its membership, or activities, please contact chapter president Elowena Camacho, or adviser Larry Lee for further information. ***(NMC)***

# 4 GES students inducted to honor society

**By CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four students of Garapan Elementary School were inducted to the National Junior Honor Society in a ceremony held at the school stage yesterday morning. The newest NJHS members are Joyce Nisola, Roland Balajadia, Jeanica Bonachita, and Louise Li.

Associate Justice Alexandro Castro inducted the four students who all received NJHS certificates, Supreme Court Pledge forms, NJHS Stole, membership cards, pins, and candles.

Besides Castro, Rep. Edmund Villagomez also joined teachers, school staff, Parent-Teacher Association officers and other parents, and the student body in attending Monday's ceremony.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Garapan Elementary School students Joyce Nisola, Roland Balajadia, Jeanica Bonachita, and Louise Li are flanked by school staff and parents after being inducted to the National Junior Honor Society in a ceremony yesterday morning.

GES' Teacher of the Year Melisa Mendez delivered inspirational remarks.

Established in 1929, NJHS aims to recognize students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character. The national organization has chapters throughout the states and territories.

School principal Paulette Sablan, one of the NJHS admin advisers, said the inductees "exemplify how we as a school strive for excellence." The students, she said, can achieve anything through perseverance and effort.

"We want to thank the parents, teachers, staff, and community partners who have one way or the other contributed to the success of these newly inducted members," added Sablan.

For his part, NJHS adviser and school counselor Derwin Johnson said the organization's newest members were given the prestigious honor because they have worked "extremely hard" to get to where they are now.

"We as a school have changed our NJHS criterion for selection to meet our standard based system and content that this school year's student members are very deserving of their induction into the society," Johnson told *Saipan Tribune*. "I wish nothing but the best and success in their educational journey!"

Other advisers for NJHS are Walter Mendez, co-adviser; Mary Grace Mendoza, teacher adviser and administration; and vice principal Liela Yumul, admin adviser.

# Marianas tourism seminars held in Japan

Specific updates and details about the Northern Marianas as a tourism destination were presented to travel agents and media in three major Japanese cities this month, as part of the Marianas Visitors Authority's Marianas Seminar series.

A total of 285 major Japanese travel agents attended the seminars, held on April 17-19, 2012, in Osaka, Nagoya, and Tokyo. The seminar series is designed to provide Japanese travel agents with the latest information on this beach resort destination, arming them to better sell the destination and develop new tour packages.

"We had more participants than originally planned, which reflects the continuing strong commitment in Japan among our key travel agent partners in promoting the Northern Marianas," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "Most of our Japanese visitors list travel agents as having the greatest influence in their decision to visit the Northern Marianas, so we pay particular attention to keeping their knowledge base current."

CNMI Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos also participated in the seminars, along with Tenorio, MVA chair Marian Aldan-Pierce and key staff members from MVA's Japan office.

In addition to a PowerPoint presentation about the Northern Mariana Islands, presentations were made by tourism partners Delta Air Lines, United Airlines, Asiana Airlines, and Saipan Air. The seminar and the workshop was also supported by 16 destination stakeholders engaged in Mariana's tourism.

Following the Tokyo seminar, a meeting of the Japan Marianas Tourism Committee was held, bringing together senior executives from Japan's leading travel agencies with the key airlines serving the CNMI. Saipan Air made an introductory presentation to this key travel trade group, with Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan and COO Adam Ferguson and Japan Country Manager Arihiro Sato of Saipan Air all presenting to the JMTC group the airline's plans to launch daily service from Narita to Saipan starting July 1 and to launch daily service from Osaka to Saipan beginning Aug.1 this year.

Eighty-two travel agents and media representatives joined the Marianas Seminar held by the Marianas Visitors Authority in Osaka on April 17, 2012. The seminar provided participants with the latest destination updates.

One hundred thirty-three travel agents and media representatives joined the Marianas Seminar held by the MVA in Tokyo on April 19, 2012. The seminar provided participants with the latest destination updates. ***(MVA)***

# *Cleanup precedes Golden Week, Tourism Month*

Thirty-five volunteers joined the Japan Saipan Travel Association in their semi-annual Tourism Industry Cleanup on April 23, Monday, in downtown Garapan, Saipan.

The cleanup was held in preparation for May Tourism Month and the Japan Golden Week holiday, when hundreds of extra visitors are expected. The cleanup began at 6:30am at the American Memorial Park and netted about 200 lbs of trash.

"We are very thankful for all who supported the event. It was a great success with the help of all the members," said JSTA president Masanori Takahashi. "We hope to see more villages clean up in anticipation of the visitors we are expecting for Golden Week."

Joining JSTA in the effort were members of Northern Marianas Diving Operators Association, Japanese Society of the Northern Mariana Islands, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Marianas Visitors Authority. For their beautification efforts, each volunteer received a 2012 edition of the MVA's Tourism Month t-shirt.

Preparations for Tourism Month continued on April 26 with Lt. Gov. Eloy Inos' official proclamation of the month at a signing ceremony at 1:30pm.

May will be highlighted by the 14th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden every Saturday beginning May 5 at American Memorial Park from 6pm to 10pm. Other activities for the month include "Hafa Adai Tirow Spirit" Island Wear Fridays and Tourism Trivia at participating radio stations. ***(MVA)***

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXII, Issue No. 102

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

## Mental health treatment delays hurt military veterans

If a military veteran went to the hospital with an obvious wound, it's natural to expect that treatment would commence without delay.

But not every war injury is immediately apparent or visible to the untrained eye.

With the wind-down of military operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, thousands of the returning troops are seeking care for mental-health issues stemming from their service experiences.

But the Veterans Affairs Department's inspector general says many of those vets aren't being seen as quickly as they should be—and the VA's flawed tracking system gives a false picture of the problem's magnitude.

Even though the Veterans Health Administration reported in 2011 that 95 percent of veterans received a comprehensive mental exam within 14 days of requesting one (the time frame in agency policy), the actual number was 49 percent, the inspector general reported this week. It took an average of 50 days to provide a full evaluation for the rest, the report said.

"VHA does not have a reliable and accurate method of determining whether they are providing patients timely access to mental health care services," the inspector general said.

Part of the problem is with the way records are kept: Schedulers don't always follow the rules, and the lag between referral by a primary care physician and the evaluation might not be reflected properly.

Part of the problem is a shortage of personnel, particularly psychiatrists. Officials knew the data-keeping was problematic; the inspector general pointed it out in reports in 2005 and 2007.

They also knew of the growing staffing needs and, in fact, increased personnel 46 percent from 2005 to 2010, the report said. But in an informal survey of VA mental-health professionals, requested by Congress, 71 percent of those responding said their centers didn't have enough people to keep up. A veteran seeking treatment at the VA medical center in Salisbury, N.C., for instance, had to wait 86 days to see a psychiatrist, the IG said.

"Getting our veterans timely mental health care can quite frankly often be the difference between life and death," said Sen. Patty Murray, a Washington state Democrat who heads the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee. "It's the critical period, not unlike the 'golden hour' immediately after a traumatic physical injury."

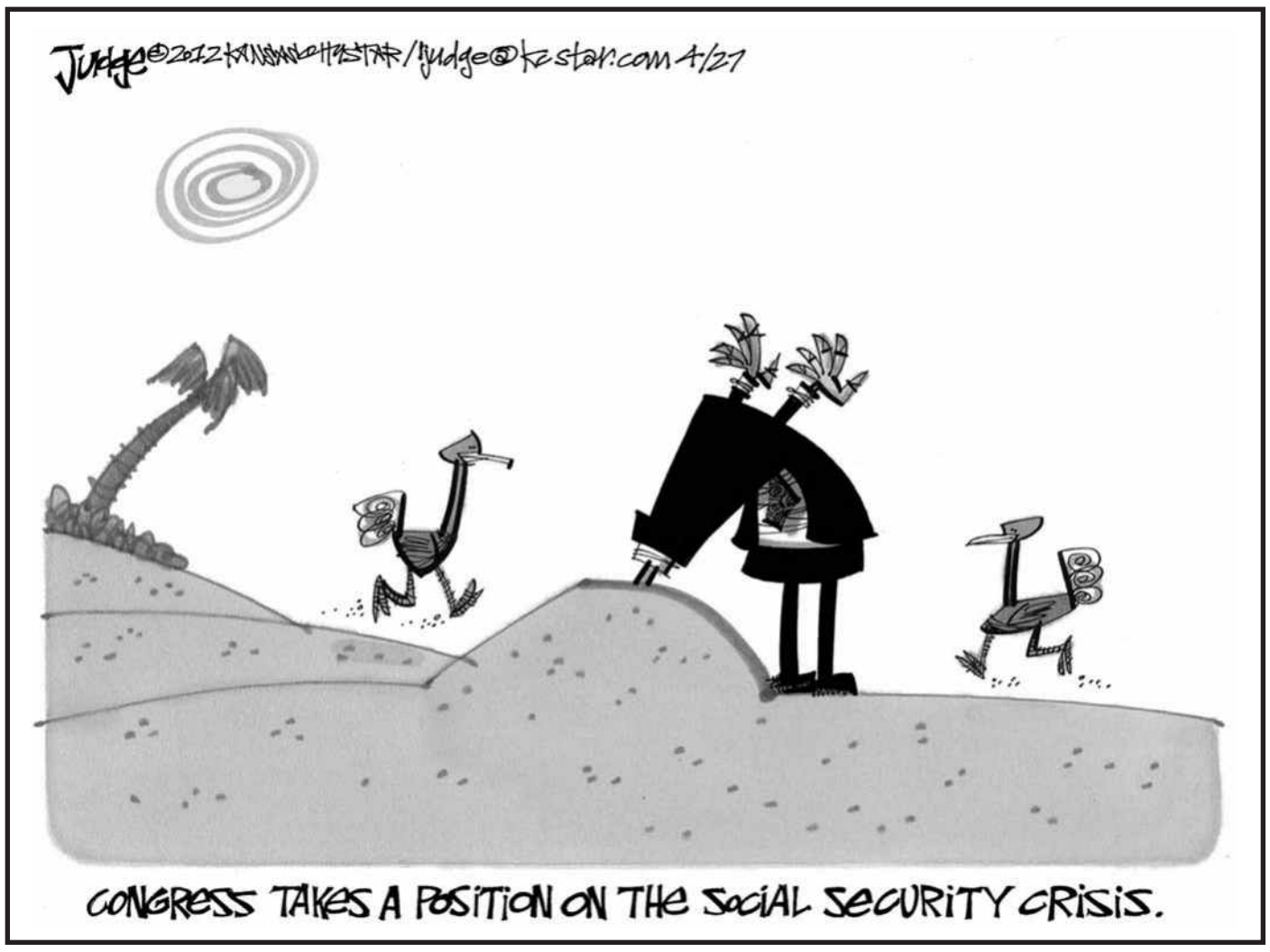
Indeed, the report cited studies in nonmilitary settings showing that delays in initially screening for mental-health needs tend to discourage patients from keeping appointments and following through with treatment.

The Veterans' Affairs Committee has scheduled a hearing for this morning titled "VA Mental Health Care: Evaluating Access and Assessing Care."

Murray said the report "shows that the VA is failing many of those who have been brave enough to seek care. It is hard enough to get veterans into the VA system to receive mental-health care. Once a veteran takes the step to reach out for help, we need to knock down every potential barrier to care."

Last week, Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki said the department will add 1,600 mental-health clinicians, including nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers, plus 300 support workers.

*See MENTAL on Next Page*




## Mayday Bersih 3.0 May Day

**By JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) previously taught at San Vicente Elementary School on Saipan and is currently a guest lecturer at Shenyang Aerospace University in China.*

"Mayday" is originally the maritime call of distress, a cry for help, a cause of alarm, or the serious signal of alert, the International Morse code SOS (three-dits-three-dashes-three-dits run together without spacing) popularly known as Save Our Ship. It has since expanded into the universal call repeated three times to indicate "grave and imminent danger."

Malaysia's Bersih 3.0 is a call of distress after a fashion, and it held rallies worldwide last Saturday for "clean" *(bersih)* elections in Tunku Abdul Razak's realm, getting KL's Mayor so rankled that he cordoned *Detakan Merdeka* (Independence Square) from any public gathering. (Some opponents of Bersih compare it to the historic events at Midan *at-Tahrir* in Cairo, Liberation Square; the 2006 movement foments similar violence with anti-Malay bent.)

The Coalition for Clean and Fair Elections *(Gabungan Pilihanraya Bersih dan Adil*) involving 80-some non-government organizations managed to organize Malaysians in 34 locations worldwide to remind the "land of mountains" (*Malai)* that clean and open elections is critical to the future of the state.

*"Bersekutu Bertambah Mutu,"* Unity Is Strength, is Malaysia's national motto but its federated government structure with an elected constitutional monarchy is heavily Malay in a state that celebrates itself as multi-ethnic and multi-cultural.

May Day is the International Workers' Day, *Wo Yi* (05-01) in China, one of its prominent holidays that used to involve a weeklong vacation for the workforce. Dubbed as a left-wing and international labor movement day, it is officially celebrated in 80 countries and but unofficially in many parts of the world.

Ironically, the day commemorates the 1886 Haymarket Massacre in Chicago when a dynamite of undetermined origin (widely suspected as being from private company goons) was thrown into restraining police officers, leading to shooting of innocent demonstrators and the felling of officers from friendly fire. The U.S. government used the incident to prosecute and execute known and suspected "anarchists" responsible for organizing and inspiring the largely non-violent general strike of May 1, 1886, in support of the proposed eight-hour work day, and the emerging muscle of labor *vis*-à-*vis* company management.

Equally ironic was Ike Eisenhower's declaring May 1 as Law Day since the travesty on American jurisprudence that followed the prosecution of suspected left-wing leaders on conspiracy is well documented and lamented. In any case, making the Haymarket incident a *cause celebre* to international socialism made Cleveland shift his support on celebrating Labor Day away from May to the first of September.

OCCUPY talked about organizing a general strike, a mayday on May Day in New York City and other parts of the United States, not totally embraced by those who sit around the roundtable. Non-violent organizations tend to shy away from a possible violent confrontation between concerned citizens exercising their right to public assembly against constituted authority. But it's an election year, spring frenzy, and the onset of the hot days of summer. Anything is possible.

The workers in China's economic miracle decade are in a bit of somber mood as the landscape of the boom is strewn with shattered dreams and Disney fantasies. Western media highlights the frenzy in purchasing gold and precious metals as a shield against inflation, and the deriding ones note that China is the growth market for exotic and expensive cars, focusing on ladies who make car choices as fashion accessory!

Local sensitive souls noted that a recent civil service exam to fill 1,400-some positions attracted 600,000 extremely qualified and properly certificated applicants, highlighting the reality that having a bachelor's degree from the university no longer guarantees secured employment or certain economic future.

The economic boom could very well involve some bursting of bubbles, particularly the over-constructed underutilized real estate one and the numerous delayed public works, and that is where China's centralized government is challenged to gingerly dance the illusory nature of the world-net financial system that is wreaking havoc in EU, and the American-led globalization, against a hardworking proletariat that wants to hang on to the benefits that comes from productivity. The image of a newly prosperous China has too many wondering why they do not feel being a part of it.

The conservative resurgence represented by Bo Xilai, much-admired former Dalian mayor south of us here in Shenyang, Chongqing CPP head, and a newly suspended member of the National Council, is a signal that rugged individualists may retain great respect for the revolutionary Helmsman but copycats had better be squeaky clean in their personal style and finances. Bo Xilai's family failed muster and has now become an embarrassing subject of a meteoric rise and fall of a well-pedigreed couple and son.

Hawaii has May Day as Lei Day, and I remember one May day in the '90s when I almost bought a t-shirt that boldly proclaimed "I was Maui'd and lei'd", but the smirk on my face is long gone. It is mayday on May Day in China. We shall be chaste in silence as the reformist team of Wen Jia Bao and Hu Jin Tao, *et al,* deal with a formidable task in the remaining year of their watch.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Don't bet on the pineapple—and other school testing follies

**By LANE FILLER**
NEWSDAY

It turns out that in the contest between the pineapple and the hare, the only winners are those who argue standardized testing has gotten out of hand.

A short story called "The Hare and the Pineapple" became the object of controversy in New York last week after it was used on a reading comprehension test for eighth-graders. Daniel Pinkwater, a National Public Radio commentator who also writes children's literature, wrote the tale (or did he?). It's about a pineapple who challenges a hare to a footrace, the reactions of the other forest creatures, the race and its aftermath. It even has a moral—if "pineapples don't have sleeves" is a moral.

After the hare accepts the pineapple's challenge, the other animals decide the pineapple must have a trick up its sleeve, else it wouldn't propose the contest. So the moose, crow and owl root for the pineapple, because they want to back a winner. (Whether acorns were wagered through a shady ferret isn't clear.) The race starts, the hare runs, the pineapple doesn't, the hare wins. Because pineapples can't run and, yup, they don't have sleeves up which to hide dastardly plans. So the animals eat the pineapple.

There were six questions in the reading test. The story contains the information needed to solve the four fairly straightforward ones. But the other two can't be answered based on the text.

The first is, "What would have happened had the animals decided to cheer for the hare?" Asking middle-schoolers to predict what will happen if talking animals decide to root for a cocky rabbit in a race against a pineapple is a tall order. That's like asking what would have happened in the "Star Wars" saga if Princess Leia were really fat, or Darth Vader were actually Luke's adoptive father. They're fascinating queries, but I don't think there's a right answer.

The other test question that could be answered with certainty only by someone on LSD (not really fair to the rest of the middle-schoolers, now is it?) is "The animals ate the pineapple most likely because they were A) hungry, B) excited, C) annoyed or D) amused."

I need more information. Does the forest have 10 races a day, with $2 daily doubles, or is it an occasional thing? Were snacks available? Do moose like pineapple? And the question these eighth-graders were undoubtedly asking themselves, "WHAT THE @#$%, MAN?"

Here's the best part: Pinkwater says he's never seen this story. He sold the rights to a tale called "The Hare and the Pineapple" for a few hundred bucks, and the testing company, Pearson, took it, made up a different, unintelligible story and affixed his name to it. So it's a dumb tale and it's reverse plagiarism, or forgery, or ... something.

The state Education Department sent out a justification-riddled email to journalists saying that questions on pineapple-hare racing won't be counted on test results. A lot of reporters who received that message probably thought, as I did, "what's this all about?" It's about the incompetence of folks at the state Education Department, which, the release says, "review and analyze all questions on every assessment we administer."

This story and questions had already been used and declared ridiculous in other states. Now in New York, the controversy is empowering those who claim neither teachers nor students can be judged, even in part, by the results of standardized tests. That isn't true, but the folks who have the most invested in proving it isn't true—the ones at the state Education Department—are the ones who let the test slip by and the argument gain steam.

The moral? When using a test to judge people, be sure it is superb, not just to avoid controversy, but because it's the right thing to do. It's no "pineapples don't have sleeves," but it will do in a crunch.

*Lane Filler is a member of the* Newsday *editorial board.*

## Letters to the Editor

# No to extending Article 12

I would like to ask your readers to please read this letter and be sure you understand the message that I am conveying on Article 12.

Some of our own people have the mistaken notion that if Article 12 were abolished there is a danger that outside investors will swarm into the CNMI to acquire our land. I cannot imagine this "gold rush" will be happening anytime soon. Besides, this is not why C-CART 12 team is asking voters to sign the petition. Signing the petition that is presently circulating the islands will enable the initiative to be put on the ballot so that all of us voters, both pros and cons, will have an opportunity to express our respective position on Article 12 next November.

Section 805 of the Covenant expired on the last day of 2011. This means that we, together with our elected leaders will now have to address what we are going to do: retain or abolish Article 12.

Many of our CNMI citizens who are registered voters and those who are eligible voters have become sophisticated and are able to think on their own to decide what is good and what is bad without external prompting. They can read Article 12 and conclude on their own what it means and how it will affect them, their families, and what will happen with the future of the CNMI and its people if Article 12 remains in effect. Article 12 is infringing on my personal right to decide what I should/could do with my land. I don't need the government to tell me how to project my land. It is my land and I am intelligent enough to decide on my own without government interference.

Some of our elected leaders are of the opinion that it is better to stretch the tenure of Article 12 to 75 or to 99 years. The sad thing about any further extension will alienate a large number of our future generations. Section 4 of Article 12 in so many words says and I quote, "*A person of Northern Marianas descent is a person who is a citizen or national of the United States and who is at least one-quarter Northern Marianas Chamorro or Northern Marianas Carolinian blood or a combination thereof…"* I construe this to mean that if your blood quantum is less than 25 percent you cannot own land in the CNMI.

According to the result of 2010 Census, there are total of 53,883 people living in CNMI: Saipan, 48,220; Tinian, 3,136; and Rota, 2,527. The census taken in 2000 reflects a total population of 69,221. In 2007 the total population of the CNMI was 83,345. It is not clear if these figures take into consideration nonresidents who are here temporarily. Since the '50s, people who were not born in the Northern Mariana Islands were already living here. Over the years to the present time, many of our people (NMD) are inter-marrying with non-NMD. I foresee within the next couple of generations that we will have many whose bloodlines will definitely be reduced to 25 percent or less. This means that our own people will lose the right to own land because of Article 12.

As of 2008 to March 2012 there were 704 intermarriages that will have their respective children with a reduction in blood quantum. I am sure there are a host of intermarriages that fall within the similar category. So if the Legislature is thinking about extending the tenure of Article 12 to 75 or 99 years, they better think again. Every year that Article 12 remains in effect, more and more NMD's will eventually lose their right to own land. In 99 years most of our children and their children's children will lose the right to own land handed down by their fore-parents. We must give credence to our young generations for they are a lot more educated and are able to think and do what is best for their future.

**David M. Sablan Sr.**
*Papago, Saipan*

# Attitude

Allowing all registered voters in the CNMI to vote on the question of repealing or retaining Article 12 is a wise idea. We should not promote the me-versus-them or us-Chamorro-and-Carolinians-versus-them-foreigners attitude. We are a United States of America family and if you are a U.S. citizen, by all means participate. We were once foreigners ourselves; think about it. On some islands, perhaps a third or 33 percent have left for greener pastures elsewhere. Pretty soon we will be alone. Who wants to be alone? Selfishness leads to loneliness. I do not want selfish people around me. I will pack up and leave too. Let those selfish people die alone. Perhaps that is what they want. So "Let it be" is their preference, so you die alone with your antiquated attitude of "me, myself and I" instead of us and them together. God help us with our attitude.

**Frank M. Atalig**
*Sinapalo 1, Rota*

# CUC chases away investors

It's been many years that people have been paying for the fuel charge to help CUC recover but the more we pay the more they raise their charges. Even in these hard times, they still raise their rates. I wonder what else they will raise. Perhaps it's time to ask the government to investigate them and check whose salaries at CUC are raised and by how much. Also, to check if the fuel charge is really being used for its purpose.

If you walk into any store, the hospital, government offices, PSS, the entire CNMI, they are all complaining about CUC's rates and how it affects their businesses, their health, and our lives. The entire CNMI is working only to pay for CUC's fuel charge.

I think it's time to demand answers because if we don't, pretty soon our government is going to shut down. And yes, it's not just the Retirement Fund that is bankrupt, it is also our government. Look, because of CUC, people are cutting expenses, businesses are raising prices, the hospital is in a state of emergency, the government cannot pay the matching funds and the list goes on. Why? Because of the CUC fuel charge. I have a brother who is a licensed electrical engineer who tells me that we need to do something about CUC.

Members of the Legislature and Governor Fitial, I think it's time for you to ask the federal government to investigate CUC since you're not capable of doing it. I'm not saying that you don't know how to do your job, but sometimes it is better to ask for help than try to fix it yourself when you don't know how.

Since the implementation of the fuel charge, a lot of people have become depressed and many make desperate decisions just so they can pay for utility service. Leaders, too, make desperate decisions just so they can pay for utility services. I remember one time the court went for a recess because CUC turned off the power for repairs. You see, people who depend on utility services make decisions out of desperation.

God help us all.

**Winnie Atalig**
*San Jose Village, Tinian*

# 'If it ain't broken, break it'

Many of us are overwhelmed by paradigm or mindset that oftentimes we are forced to see and think in a vacuum. In answer to Mr. Segundo Castro's propositional argument—if it ain't broken, don't fix it—is an old problematic common thinking. This juxtaposition has been plaguing the indigenous people of the CNMI for many years because of the inept and greed of the ruling and exploiting classes on these islands. It was Delegate Gregorio Sablan who suggested that if it ain't broken, break it is the thing to do. That was it and the delegate should be commended for this honorable intention.

What it is there to argue? This is a basic human resolve. Do you think, Mr. Castro, that only Mr. Gregorio Sablan would be the shining armor and saving grace for the indigenous people of the NMI? We have seen this phenomenon repeated over and again based on historical facts, hence it is a mistake to impregnate elitism in the CNMI's delegate to Congress office as a precautionary measure, but more importantly secured in the logic that others should have a chance of serving the indigenous people of the NMI as well.

It is agreeable and understandable by most that no one is infallible, and putting one in a position as an indispensable elitist would not seat well with the ordinary indigenous people of these islands as we slowly but certainly farm and mine their sentiments over the issue of sending a new delegate to the U.S. Congress who would represent the needs and wants of the indigenous people. Indeed, this is well settled in the idea, "If it ain't broken, break it." And, the delegate to the U.S. Congress is open to that challenge.

**Francisco R. Agulto**
*Chalan Kanoa, Saipan*

## MENTAL

*From Page 10*

Last year alone, the VA provided mental-health services to 1.3 million veterans, the agency said.

"History shows that the costs of war will continue to grow for a decade or more after the operational missions in Iraq and Afghanistan have ended," Shinseki said.

It's an obligation the American public has to those who've served, and it must be fulfilled as diligently as they served us.

©2012 the Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲88° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° | ▲87° ▼76° |

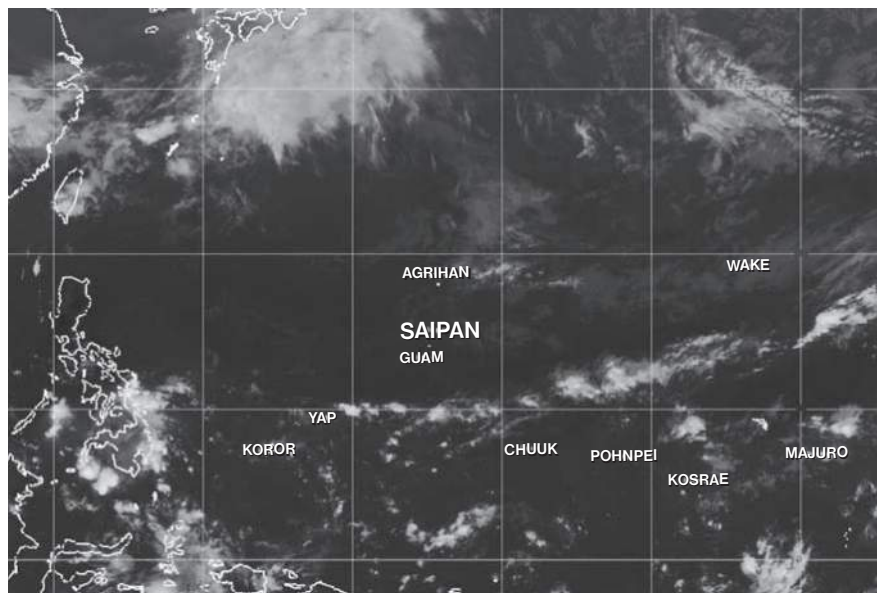
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Thundershowers | ▲87 | ▼79 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲87 | ▼77 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲91 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲90 | ▼79 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲87 | ▼78 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲87 | ▼78 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲87 | ▼80 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Sunny | ▲64 | ▼51 |
| Beijing | Mostly Sunny | ▲79 | ▼55 |
| Hong Kong | Thundershowers | ▲82 | ▼78 |
| Honolulu | Partly Cloudy | ▲81 | ▼71 |
| London | Rain | ▲63 | ▼51 |
| Los Angeles | Partly Cloudy | ▲65 | ▼55 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲93 | ▼83 |
| Melbourne | Showers | ▲56 | ▼52 |
| Miami | Thundershowers | ▲78 | ▼74 |
| New York | Showers | ▲68 | ▼55 |
| Osaka | Showers | ▲68 | ▼61 |
| Paris | Cloudy | ▲59 | ▼48 |
| Pusan | Showers | ▲66 | ▼57 |
| Rome | Sunny | ▲71 | ▼53 |
| Salem | Cloudy | ▲55 | ▼42 |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | ▲64 | ▼53 |
| Seoul | Showers | ▲74 | ▼56 |
| Tokyo | Showers | ▲66 | ▼61 |
| Washington, DC | Thundershowers | ▲82 | ▼65 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2012**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weakening frontal system north of the CNMI is creating cloudiness and scattered showers north of a line from 19N140E to 23N156E. A low-level trough extends southwestward from near Midway Island through 25N180 passing southeast of Wake Island at 18N172E to end northeast of Chuuk at 11N155E. Converging winds near the trough axis are causing scattered showers within 90 miles of a line from 11N154E to 14N170E to 19N180. A surface trough runs northward from EQ140E to 8N138E. Scattered showers associated with this feature are found over Yap and southward within 105 miles of a line from 10N138E to EQ141E. Modest trade-wind convergence is coupling with moist upper-level flow to produce scattered showers south of Chuuk between 1N and 3N from 148E to 154E and also just east of Kosrae within 50 miles of a line from 4N164E to 7N164E. A trade-wind disturbance is generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of the Marshall Islands east of a line from 10N175E to EQ177E.

## Tides

**Saipan Harbor**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4:32 AM | Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |
| 10:49 AM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.9 Feet |
| 4:04 PM | Today | High Tide: | 1.5 Feet |
| 10:32 PM | Today | Low Tide: | 0.4 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:54 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Wednesday | 5:53 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Thursday | 5:53 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Friday | 5:52 AM | 6:35 PM |
| Saturday | 5:52 AM | 6:36 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 1:45 PM | 1:34 AM |
| Wednesday | 2:40 PM | 2:18 AM |
| Thursday | 3:38 PM | 3:02 AM |
| Friday | 4:38 PM | 3:48 AM |
| Saturday | 5:41 PM | 4:38 AM |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 11, 2012

### DEPARTURES

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)** | | | |
| C05062 | 2:10am | 2:40am | 1, 5 |
| **SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)** | | | |
| C05064 | 4:15am | 4:50am | 1, 5 |
| **SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)** | | | |
| C05064 | 4:15am | 5:45am | 1, 5 via ROP |
| C05070 | 4:35am | 5:25am | 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| C05068 | 8:25am | 9:15am | Daily |
| C05074 | 12:10pm | 1:00pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05076 | 3:10pm | 4:00pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05078 | 6:50pm | 7:40pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05078 | 7:00pm | 7:50pm | 3, 6 |
| C05072 | 9:55pm | 10:45pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05072 | 10:05pm | 10:55pm | 3, 6 |
| **SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)** | | | |
| DL287 | 6:00am | 8:40am | Daily |
| DL285 | 6:35am | 9:15am | 1, 3, 5, 7 |
| DL297 | 4:25pm | 7:15pm | Daily |
| **SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)** | | | |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 6:40am | Daily |
| **SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)** | | | |
| OZ606 | 2:10am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ606 | 2:40am | 6:30am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 11:20am | Daily via KIX |
| OZ604 | 3:20pm | 7:10pm | Daily |
| **SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)** | | | |
| OZ608 | 3:35am | 7:05am | 4, 7 |
| DL581 | 4:10am | 7:30am | 1, 5 |
| **SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)** | | | |
| 3U8646 | 4:20am | 7:30am | 2, 6 |
| **SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)** | | | |
| 3U8648 | 6:10am | 8:40am | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| **SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)** | | | |
| OZ606/701 | 2:10am | 11:15am | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/701 | 2:40am | 11:15am | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C05070/191 | 4:35am | 9:45am | 3, 6 via GUM |
| DL287/173 | 6:00am | 10:25pm | Daily via NRT |
| C05068/183 | 8:25am | 9:25pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| C05068/183 | 8:25am | 9:40pm | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| C05076/183 | 3:10pm | 9:25pm | 2, 5 via GUM |
| C05076/183 | 3:10pm | 9:40pm | 1, 4, 7 via GUM |
| C05076/193 | 3:10pm | 11:00pm | 2, 5 via GUM-Palau |
| OZ604/703 | 3:20pm | 11:00pm | Daily via ICN |
| C05072/PR111 | 9:55pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 5, 7 via GUM |
| C05072/PR111 | 10:05pm | 7:50am+1 | 3, 6 via GUM |
| **SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)** | | | |
| OZ606/721 | 2:10am | 12:00pm | 1 via ICN |
| OZ606/721 | 2:40am | 12:00pm | 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN |
| C05076/147 | 3:10pm | 10:25pm | 1, 5 via GUM |
| OZ604/723 | 3:20pm | 10:30pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ604/749 | 3:20pm | 10:50pm | Daily via ICN |

### ARRIVALS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)** | | | |
| C05064 | 5:15am | 5:45am | 1, 5 |
| **ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)** | | | |
| C05062 | 3:10am | 3:45am | 1, 5 |
| **GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| C05062 | 2:10am | 3:45am | 1, 5 via ROP |
| C05069 | 2:45am | 3:35am | 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| C05071 | 7:00am | 7:50am | Daily |
| C05073 | 10:05am | 10:55am | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05075 | 1:40pm | 2:30pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05077 | 5:30pm | 6:20pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05077 | 5:40pm | 6:30pm | 3, 6 |
| C05079 | 8:35pm | 9:25pm | 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 |
| C05079 | 8:45pm | 9:35pm | 3, 6 |
| **NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| DL298 | 10:25am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| DL288 | 8:40pm | 1:15am+1 | Daily |
| DL286 | 7:40pm | 12:20am+1 | 2, 4, 6, 7 |
| **OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| OZ120 | 9:50pm | 2:20am+1 | Daily |
| **SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| OZ603 | 9:00am | 2:20pm | Daily |
| OZ120 | 7:10pm | 2:20am+1 | Daily via KIX |
| OZ605 | 7:40pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 |
| OZ605 | 8:10pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 |
| **BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 2:20am+1 | 3, 6 |
| DL580 | 10:10pm | 2:55am+1 | 4, 7 |
| **GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| 3U8645 | 7:40pm | 3:00am+1 | 1, 5 |
| **SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| 3U8647 | 10:40pm | 5:00am+1 | 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| **MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| DL172/288 | 8:00am | 1:15am+1 | Daily via NRT |
| C0190/5077 | 10:55am | 6:30pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| C0190/5079 | 10:55am | 9:35pm | 3, 6 via GUM |
| OZ702/605 | 12:30pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ702/605 | 12:30pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| PR110/C05071 | 10:15pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM |
| C0192/5071 | 10:25pm | 7:50am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM-Palau |
| C0184/5071 | 11:10pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM |
| OZ704/603 | 11:40pm | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| C0184/5071 | 11:59pm | 7:50am+1 | 2, 5 via GUM |
| **HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN** | | | |
| OZ724/603 | 12:30am | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ750/603 | 1:00am | 2:20pm | Daily via ICN |
| OZ722/605 | 1:15pm | 1:00am+1 | 7 via ICN |
| OZ722/605 | 1:15pm | 1:30am+1 | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN |
| C0180/5071 | 11:15pm | 7:50am+1 | 1, 5 via GUM |

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:30 | 8:00 | Daily |
| **Rota–Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 8:20 | 8:50 | Daily |
| **Guam–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 17:00 | 17:30 | Daily |
| **Rota–Saipan** | 17:50 | 18:20 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:30 | 10:00 | Daily |
| **Rota–Guam** | 10:20 | 10:45 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 18:55 | 19:25 | Daily |
| **Rota–Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 19:40 | 20:10 | Daily |
| **Saipan–Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45 | 6:55 | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30 | 7:40 | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00 | 8:10 | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40 | 8:50 | Daily |
| FRE 109 | 9:10 | 9:20 | Daily |
| FRE 111 | 10:45 | 10:55 | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 115 | 13:00 | 13:10 | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 14:30 | 14:40 | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 16:00 | 16:10 | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 16:40 | 16:50 | Daily |
| FRE 123 | 17:40 | 17:50 | Daily |
| FRE 125 | 18:30 | 18:40 | Daily |
| **Tinian–Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05 | 7:15 | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50 | 8:00 | Daily |
| FRE 106 | 8:20 | 8:30 | Daily |
| FRE 108 | 9:00 | 9:10 | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00 | 10:10 | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05 | 11:15 | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00 | 12:10 | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 13:30 | 13:40 | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 14:50 | 15:00 | Daily |
| FRE 120 | 16:20 | 16:30 | Daily |
| FRE 122 | 17:00 | 17:10 | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 18:05 | 18:15 | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 18:50 | 19:00 | Daily |

# Business

# Mary P. Torre is 2012 Businesswoman of the Year

**TAMUNING, Guam**—Mary P. Torre was named the 2012 First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* Businesswoman of the Year at the seventh annual Maga'haga Award gala on April 28.

Torre was selected out of 10 nominees at this year's annual award program, which recognizes businesswomen who have made significant contributions to their industries and have demonstrated a strong commitment to their community. She is featured in a commissioned photo study on the cover of the *Guam Business Magazine* May-June issue, which was released at the gala.

Torre has more than 20 years' experience in public relations and marketing, plus expertise in health insurance and health care delivery services, tourism, advertising, and general business. She is the president of the Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association and president of MARQ Consulting Services.

Torre

The 2012 First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business Magazine* Businesswoman of the Year is affiliated with more than 20 nonprofit organizations including the Rotary Club of Tumon Bay and Rotary International, and Anderson Civilian Advisory Board where she has helped to raise money to assist the island community and beyond. She is described as productive, confident, and energetic by her colleagues. She is also known for her "can-do" approach to her goals and objectives.

Torre is a mother of two: Kierin David Torre, 16, and Gabrielle Rose Torre, 12.

The other nine 2012 Businesswoman of the Year nominees are Katie F. Black, sales account manager, United; Laila Y. Boyer, president, Marianas Variety News and Views; Shelly V. Calvo, owner, Oxygene and Diva's Café; Jaylene Kent, president, Isla Paint and Roofing Supply; Françoise Martin, chiropractor, Walking Tall Clinic; Layla Raymanova, realtor, Century 21 Commonwealth Realty; Annette T. Santos, associate professor, School of Business and Public Administration, University of Guam; Frances C. Schier, general manager, Travel Pacificana; and Andrea S. Whitt, executive director, customer service, IT&E.

Proceeds from the gala will fund scholarships at the University of Guam, Guam Community College, and Northern Marianas College. ***(PR)***

# Facebook billionaire shuns luxury for startup life

By MARCUS WOHLSEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Facebook co-founder and former Mark Zuckerberg roommate Dustin Moskovitz is by many accounts the world's youngest self-made billionaire. But the 27-year-old isn't sipping champagne in the Caribbean.

Instead he's thrown himself back into San Francisco's startup mix, even as Facebook's looming IPO seems likely to send his wealth spiraling even higher.

Moskovitz and his friend Justin Rosenstein, a former Facebooker himself worth $150 million, head a company called Asana, which just launched the first paid version of its online project management service. During a recent interview at their inconspicuous Mission District offices, the pair said they come to work every day because, their fortunes already made, they still have to do something with their lives.

"When we think of work, we think of work as an act of service, as an act of love for humanity," said Rosenstein, 28.

Added Moskovitz: "If we were just retired, we wouldn't be serving anyone."

While such idealistic sentiments might sound too easy coming from two guys who never have to worry about money again, they both do keep working even though they'd never have to again. And like Zuckerberg himself they seem uninterested in the flash and status-hoarding that great wealth makes possible.

LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT
Facebook co-founder Dustin Moskovitz, left, with Mark Zuckerberg in 2005. The pair were roommates at Harvard.

In keeping with the recent startup trend of shunning hierarchies, the pair do not have separate offices but sit among the other employees at Asana, which numbers 24 in all. They don't have an entourage. Rosenstein likes to cycle (he recently had his bike stolen).

Also like Zuckerberg, they dress down, Moskovitz in an untucked shirt, Rosenstein in a sweater and Chuck Taylors. On the streets of their neighborhood, which brims with twenty-something hipster geeks, they'd blend right in.

What sets them apart, they acknowledge, is their absolute freedom to pursue their particular vision of how to change the world. And they seem to have no doubt that their software will do just that. After all, as some of Facebook's earliest engineers, they've seen their code change the world once already.

Asana will speed human progress by changing the way people work together, Rosenstein said. Too much time at work is spent doing "work about work," Moskovitz said. They say Asana will free people up to do more important things.

"We could go work on curing cancer. We could go work on building spaceships. We could go work on art projects," Rosenstein said. "What's fun about working at Asana is we get to work on all of them at the same time." Or as Moskovitz, the more circumspect of the two, said, "We're working on a meta-problem."

Whether Asana's world-changing potential exceeds that of competitors in the crowded project and task management software marketplace remains to be seen. Like other similar products, their software lets users set up Web-based to-do lists that any group focused on a common goal can use to assign jobs and keep track of what gets done.

The pair believe Asana will win out on its speed, versatility and ability to maintain the flow alluded to in its name, which in yoga refers to the poses meant to aid the flow of spiritual energy in the body. (Regular yoga sessions are among the perks of office life at Asana. Other benefits include an in-house chef and $10,000 for new hires to set up their desks with whatever computing gear they want.)

Several marquee tech companies have embraced Asana, the company reports, such as Twitter, LinkedIn and Foursquare. Individual backers betting on Asana include venture capital celebrities like Peter Thiel and Mark Andreessen, as well as several of Facebook's earliest employees.

None go as far back as Moskovitz, however. He spent two years at Harvard where he helped Zuckerberg start the site before they dropped out and moved to Palo Alto. He left Facebook in 2008 and started Asana with Rosenstein.

According to Facebook's pre-IPO filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Moskovitz holds nearly 134 million shares of Facebook stock, giving him a 7.6 percent stake in the company. Based on the value placed on Facebook's stock in its $1 billion cash-and-stock deal for Instagram, Moskovitz's pre-IPO net worth stands at more than $4 billion.

Like many of the richest Americans, Moskovitz has signed a pledge initiated by Bill and Melinda Gates and Warren Buffett to give away most of his money. His wife runs his philanthropic foundation, which is still getting off the ground.

For now, he said he's focused "110 percent" on Asana. To hear Moskovitz tell it, the choice of coming to the office doesn't come at the expense of some wished-for life of luxury.

# UK's Cameron: No pact with Murdoch over takeover

**LONDON** (AP)—Prime Minister David Cameron acknowledged Sunday that he wooed Rupert Murdoch as he attempted to win power in Britain, but insisted he never struck a tit-for-tat deal to support the media mogul's business dealings in return for favorable coverage.

Cameron

Ties between Cameron's government and Murdoch's News Corp. are under scrutiny after Britain's judge-led inquiry into media ethics raised questions about a minister's handling of a decision on whether the company should be authorized to take full control of British Sky Broadcasting, in which it holds a 39 percent stake.

Lord Justice Brian Leveson's inquiry has disclosed 163 emails sent by News Corp. lobbyist Frederic Michel about his contacts with Culture Secretary Jeremy Hunt's office, mainly with special adviser Adam Smith.

Hunt was supposed to be acting as an impartial judge to decide on whether to approve the takeover or refer it to regulators, but Michel's e-mails portrayed the minister, or his office, as leaking sensitive information to Murdoch's representatives and supporting the News Corp. case.

Smith resigned Wednesday, and claimed he had held some discussions without Hunt's authority.

Cameron told the BBC in an interview that "as things stand, I don't believe Jeremy Hunt broke the ministerial code," but warned that if any evidence emerged that Hunt had acted inappropriately, he would order an investigation.

Both Cameron and Hunt will give evidence, along with other lawmakers, to the Leveson inquiry on the relationship between the press and politicians.

# Sarmiento joins Bank of Guam VP ranks

**HAGATNA, Guam**—The Bank of Guam announced yesterday the promotion of John T.M. Sarmiento to vice president and Tamuning branch manager.

Sarmiento

Sarmiento, who joined the bank in 2004 as a management trainee, completed the management training program and then spent three years at the bank's headquarters loan department. He was branch manager at Santa Cruz before being accepting an assignment to the bank's Tamuning Branch.

A well-known baseball athlete, Sarmiento has also volunteered for a number of projects, including serving on the board of the Guam Public Library and volunteering for National Teach Children to Save Day and Get Smart About Credit Day. ***(BoG)***

# Pacific investment conference in Nov.

The 12th annual Pacific Region Investment Conference, organized by the Asia Pacific Association for Fiduciary Studies, will be held on Nov. 15 and 16, 2012, at the New World Hotel in Makati, Manila, the Philippines.

The conference is primarily intended for public and private sector plan trustees, administrators, executive directors, and managers; endowment and foundation trustees, administrators, executive directors, and managers; legislators responsible for the oversight and funding of public pension funds and sovereign trust funds; third-party administrators and benefits design consultants; attorneys/accountants/actuaries; investment managers and consultants

Register by clicking the URL www.apafsevents.brandspeakasia.com or log on to www.apafs.org.

Also, APAFS will once again offer the Accredited Investment Fiduciary® certification course prior to the conference on Nov. 13 and 14. Contact APAFS chair Gerry Cruz at chairman@apafs.org for more information. ***(APAFS)***

# Nation

# With an asterisk, WTC is back on top in NYC

**NEW YORK** (AP)—One World Trade Center, the giant monolith being built to replace the twin towers destroyed in the Sept. 11 attacks, will lay claim to the title of New York City's tallest skyscraper on Monday. Workers will erect steel columns that will make its unfinished skeleton a little over 1,250 feet high, just enough to peak over the roof of the observation deck on the Empire State Building.

The milestone is a preliminary one. Workers are still adding floors to the so-called "Freedom Tower" and it isn't expected to reach its full height for at least another year, at which point it is likely to be declared the tallest building in the U.S., and third tallest in the world.

Those bragging rights, though, will carry an asterisk.

Crowning the world's tallest buildings is a little like picking the heavyweight champion in boxing. There is often disagreement about who deserves the belt.

In this case, the issue involves the 408-foot-tall needle that will sit on the tower's roof.

Count it, and the World Trade Center is back on top. Otherwise, it will have to settle for No. 2, after the Willis Tower in Chicago.

"Height is complicated," said Nathaniel Hollister, a spokesman for The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitats, a Chicago-based organization considered an authority on such records.

Experts and architects have long disagreed about where to stop measuring super-tall buildings outfitted with masts, spires and antennas that extend far above the roof.

Consider the case of the Empire State Building: Measured from the sidewalk to the tip of its needle-like antenna, the granddaddy of all super-tall skyscrapers actually stands 1,454 feet high, well above the mark being surpassed by One World Trade Center on Monday.

Purists, though, say antennas shouldn't count when determining building height.

An antenna, they say, is more like furniture than a piece of architecture. Like a chair sitting on a rooftop, an antenna can be attached or removed. The Empire State Building didn't even get its distinctive antenna until 1952. The record books, as the argument goes, shouldn't change every time someone installs a new satellite dish.

Excluding the antenna brings the Empire State Building's total height to 1,250 feet. That was still high enough to make the skyscraper the world's tallest from 1931 until 1972.

From that height, the Empire State seems to tower over the second tallest completed building in New York, the Bank of America Tower.

Yet, in many record books, the two skyscrapers are separated by just 50 feet.

That's because the tall, thin mast on top of the Bank of America building isn't an antenna, but a decorative spire.

Unlike antennas, record-keepers like spires. It's a tradition that harkens back to a time when the tallest buildings in many European cities were cathedrals. Groups like the Council on Tall Buildings, and Emporis, a building data provider in Germany, both count spires when measuring the total height of a building, even if that spire happens to look exactly like an antenna.

This quirk in the record books has benefited buildings like Chicago's recently opened Trump International Hotel and Tower. It is routinely listed as being between 119 to 139 feet taller than the Empire State Building, thanks to the antenna-like mast that sits on its roof, even though the average person, looking at the two buildings side by side, would probably judge the New York skyscraper to be taller.

AP

This April 27, 2012, photo shows the Empire State Building, left, and One World Trade Center, right, in New York.

The same factors apply to measuring the height of One World Trade Center.

Designs call for the tower's roof to stand at 1,368 feet—the same height as the north tower of the original World Trade Center. The building's roof will be topped with a 408-foot, cable-stayed mast, making the total height of the structure a symbolic 1,776 feet.

So is that needle an antenna or a spire?

"Not sure," wrote Steve Coleman, a spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which owns the building.

The needle will, indeed, function as a broadcast antenna. It is described on the Port Authority's website as an antenna. On the other hand, the structure will have more meat to it than your average antenna, with external cladding encasing the broadcast mast.

Without that spire, One World Trade Center would still be smaller than the Willis Tower in Chicago, formerly known as the Sears Tower, which tops out at 1,451 feet (not including its own antennas).

Debate over which of those buildings can truly claim to be the tallest in the U.S. has been raging for years on Internet message boards frequented by skyscraper enthusiasts.

As for the Council on Tall Buildings, it is leaning toward giving One World Trade the benefit of the doubt.

"This is something we have discussed with the architect," Hollister said. "As we understand it, the needle is an architectural spire which happens to enclose an antenna. We would thus count it as part of the architectural height."

But, he noted, the organization has also chosen to sidestep these types of disputes, somewhat, by recognizing three types of height records: tallest occupied floor, architectural top, and height to the tip.

Hollister also pointed out that, technically speaking, One World Trade Center isn't a record-holder in any category yet, as it is still unfinished.

"A project is not considered a building until it is topped out, fully clad, and open for business or at least occupiable," he said.

The debate doesn't quite end there.

Neither of the Willis Tower nor One World Trade are as high as the CN Tower, in Toronto, which stands at 1,815 feet. That structure, however, isn't considered a building at all by most record-keepers, because it is predominantly a television broadcast antenna and observation platform with very little interior space. The tallest man-made structure in the Western Hemisphere will continue to be the 2,063-foot-tall KVLY-TV antenna in Blanchard, N.D.

As for the world's tallest building, the undisputed champion is the Burj Khalifa, in Dubai, which opened in 2010 and reaches 2,717 feet.

Not counting about 5 feet of aircraft lights and other equipment perched on top, of course.

## SUV plunges off NY road into zoo grounds; 7 killed

**NEW YORK** (AP)—An out-of-control SUV barreled across several lanes of traffic on a highway overpass Sunday, then plunged more than 50 feet off the side of the road and landed in a ravine on the grounds of the nation's largest city zoo, killing all seven people aboard, including three children, authorities said.

The SUV apparently flipped over a 4-foot-high iron fence before landing upside-down on the Bronx Zoo property. The cause of the crash was unclear, and police said they didn't yet know how fast the SUV was traveling. A city official said the guardrail's height would be one of the safety issues investigated.

The victims were three girls, ages 3 to 10, an 84-year-old man and three women, ages 80, 45 and 39, police said. The 45-year-old woman was driving. The victims' names weren't immediately released.

The Honda Pilot was headed south on the highway that cuts through a working-class neighborhood when it bounced off the median, crossed all southbound lanes and hit the guardrail, police said.

The SUV landed in a wooded area on the edge of zoo property that's closed to the public and far from any animal exhibits, zoo spokeswoman Mary Dixon said. The vehicle lay mangled hours later, its right doors ripped off and strewn amid the trees along with items from the car. Next to the heavily wooded area are subway tracks and a train yard.

It's not clear what caused the SUV to go out of control. The southbound side of the highway was closed briefly Sunday afternoon while police investigated but later reopened.

The medical examiner's office said it expected to release the victims' causes of death on Monday.

The accident was the second in the past year where a car fell off the same stretch of the Bronx River Parkway.

## Flooding disperses invasive plant, fish species

**BETHEL, Vt.** (AP)—Last year's hurricanes and flooding not only engulfed homes and carried away roads and bridges in hard-hit areas of the country, it dispersed aggressive invasive species as well.

In Vermont, the floodwaters from Tropical Storm Irene and work afterward to dredge rivers and remove debris spread fragments of Japanese knotweed, a plant that threatens to take over flood plains wiped clean by the August storm.

The overflowing Missouri and Mississippi rivers last year launched Asian carp into lakes and oxbows where the fish had not been seen before, from Louisiana to the Iowa Great Lakes. Flooding also increased the population along the Missouri River of purple loosestrife, a plant that suppresses native plants and alters wetlands.

"It's quite an extensive problem around the country and it's spreading," said Dr. Linda Nelson, aquatic invasive species expert with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The agency's budget for controlling invasive aquatic plants has grown from $124 million in 2008 to $135 million for fiscal year 2012.

Dr. Al Cofrancesco, director of the Corps' Invasive Species Center in Vicksburg, Miss., said invasive species are not a problem when they're in their native range.

"There are things that keep them in natural balance. The problem occurs is when we move into areas where they don't have those natural controls or regulators and they expand very rapidly," he said.

In Vermont, floodwaters and repair work broke off portions of stems and woody rhizomes of the aggressive Japanese knotweed. The perennial, imported from Asia as an ornamental, was already a problem in Vermont and a dozen other states in the Northeast, the Pacific Northwest and the Midwest. It spreads quickly on riverbanks, floodplains and roadsides, choking out native plants, degrading habitats of fish, birds and insects and weakening stream banks.

"The whole Irene event was ideal" for knotweed, said Brian Colleran, a coordinator for Vermont's knotweed program.

# Asia

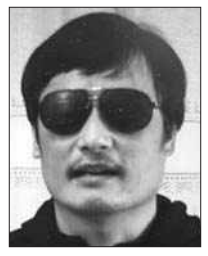
# China activists lifted by blind lawyer's escape

**BEIJING** (AP)—The surprising escape of a blind legal activist from house arrest to the presumed custody of U.S. diplomats is buoying China's embattled dissident community even as the government lashes out, detaining those who helped him and squelching mention of his name on the Internet.

The flight of Chen Guangcheng, a campaigner for disabled rights and against coercive family planning, is a challenge for China's authoritarian government and, if it's confirmed he is in U.S. custody, for Washington too. Assistant Secretary of State Kurt Campbell began a hurried mission to Beijing on Sunday to smooth the way for annual talks involving his boss, Hillary Clinton, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner and scores of officials.

Though Chen—a self-taught legal activist described by friends and supporters as calm and charismatic—hardly seems a threat, security forces and officials have reacted angrily, detaining several of his supporters and a nephew who fought with officials after the escape was discovered is on the run.

Police showed up at the home of veteran activists Zeng Jinyan and Hu Jia, who met with Chen last week while he was hiding in Beijing. Police took Hu away Saturday for 24 hours. They questioned Zeng for about a half-hour at home, sounding, she said, "very unhappy" about Chen's flight.


Chen

"They were really irritated," Zeng said. "It was a big shock for them."

Ai Xiaoming, a documentary film maker based in southern Guangzhou city, said Chen's escape has had the biggest emotional impact on Chinese rights advocates since jailed dissident Liu Xiaobo won the Nobel Peace Prize two years ago.

"There are many people now drinking toasts to him for the way he broke through his captivity, his difficulties, and pursued freedom," said Ai. "It's what we all want for ourselves in our hearts. Chen Guangcheng is an example to us. If a blind person can break out of the darkness to freedom, then everyone can."

China's state-controlled media have so far ignored the story despite its gripping narrative and the serious implications it could have on Sino-U.S. relations. Anything vaguely related to Chen has been blocked on Chinese social media sites, such as posts including or key word searches for Chen, Guangcheng, GC, or even the words "blind person."

The media blackout and online controls haven't prevented China's Internet savvy activist community from learning about or celebrating Chen's escape. After state television aired a rerun Saturday of the American prison break film "Shawshank Redemption," some gleefully tweeted that it was an indirect nod to Chen. "Shawshank Redemption" became a banned search term.

Chen's whereabouts have yet to be confirmed. Activists in China and overseas have said Chen is either under U.S. protection or in the U.S. Embassy.

Chen's escape comes as the Chinese leadership is already reeling, trying to heal divisions over the ousting of a powerful politician, Bo Xilai, and complete a once-a-decade transition to a new generation of leaders. As in Chen's case, the U.S. is implicated: Bo's ouster was precipitated by the sudden flight of an aide to the U.S. Consulate in Chengdu.

While the aide, Wang Lijun, gave himself up to Chinese authorities—and though Republicans have criticized President Barack Obama for letting a valuable intelligence asset go—the incident and Chen's escape reaffirm long-held suspicions by Beijing that the U.S. wants to undermine the communist government. Late last week, the White House, in a reversal, said it was considering selling new warplanes to Taiwan—the democratic island China claims as a breakaway territory.

## Captive British aid worker killed in Pakistan

**QUETTA, Pakistan** (AP)—The body of a British Red Cross worker held captive in Pakistan since January was found in an orchard Sunday, his throat slit and a note attached to his body saying he was killed because no ransom was paid, police said.

Khalil Rasjed Dale, 60, was managing a health program in the city of Quetta in southwestern Pakistan when armed men seized him from a street close to his office. The identities of his captors are unknown, but the region is home to separatist and Islamist militants who have kidnapped for ransom before.

The director-general of the International Committee of the Red Cross condemned the "barbaric act."

"All of us at the ICRC and at the British Red Cross share the grief and outrage of Khalil's family and friends," said Yves Daccord.

Dale's throat had been slit, according to Safdar Hussain, a doctor who examined the body.

Quetta police chief Ahsan Mahboob said the note attached to it read: "This is the body of Khalil who we have slaughtered for not paying a ransom."

Militants and criminal gangs often kidnap wealthy Pakistanis and less commonly, foreigners.

British Foreign Secretary William Hague condemned Dale's killing, and said "tireless efforts" had been under way to secure his release after he was kidnapped.

Khalil had worked for the Red Cross for years, carrying out assignments in Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq, the group said.

Quetta, the capital of Baluchistan province, lies close to the Afghan border and for decades has hosted thousands of refugees from that country. The Red Cross operates clinics in the city that treat people wounded in the war in Afghanistan, including Taliban insurgents.

A Pakistani foreign office statement condemned the crime, promising to bring its perpetrators to justice. However, arrests for this type of crime are rare.

Much of Baluchistan and the tribal regions close to Afghanistan are out of Pakistani government control, and make good places to keep hostages. Large ransoms are often paid to secure their release, but such payments are rarely confirmed.

Two Pakistani intelligence officials in Quetta said they were investigating whether this could be the work of the Pakistani Taliban. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media.

There are at least four other foreigners being held in Pakistan.

Last August, a 70-year-old American humanitarian aid worker was kidnapped from his house in the Punjabi city of Lahore. Al-Qaida claimed to be holding the man, Warren Weinstein, and said in a video he would be released if the United States stopped airstrikes in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia and Yemen.

In March, a Swiss couple held captive for eight months by the Taliban turned up at an army checkpoint close to the Afghan border. Insurgents have claimed a large ransom was paid to secure their freedom. That has not been confirmed by Pakistani or Swiss authorities, who are unlikely to acknowledge it even if they did.

The couple was kidnapped in Baluchistan.

Also Sunday, American missiles killed three suspected Islamist militants sheltering in an abandoned school in North Waziristan, said intelligence officials, who did not give their names because they were not authorized to speak to reporters.

Pakistan's government strongly condemned the attack. In a statement, it said such attacks violate international law and Pakistan's "territorial integrity and sovereignty."

## Bombs go off during Bangladesh strike, no injuries

AP

Bangladesh opposition activists shout slogans before they attack vehicles during a nationwide general strike in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Sunday, April 29. 2012.

**DHAKA, Bangladesh** (AP)—At least a dozen homemade bombs went off in the capital during an opposition-sponsored general strike on Sunday, including two inside the main government building, but no one was injured, a police official said.

Two small bombs—tin pots filled with explosives—exploded harmlessly in an empty car parking area inside the Bangladesh Secretariat building that houses the government ministries in central Dhaka, senior police officer Nurul Islam said.

He said at least 10 more similar small bombs went off in other parts of the city, causing no injuries. Islam provided no details, and it was unclear who had set off the bombs.

The main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party is leading the nationwide strike Sunday and Monday, demanding the government find the party's organizing secretary, Elias Ali, who went missing two weeks ago.

The opposition blames the government and security agencies for Ali's disappearance, but authorities deny it. A rights group says at least 22 people, mostly politicians, have disappeared this year in Bangladesh.

Islam said police briefly detained six opposition activists, including the Bangladesh Nationalist Party's Publicity Secretary Rizvi Ahmed, as they tried to lead a march in central Dhaka.

The strike halted traffic and shut down stores and schools in the capital and across most of the country's 64 district towns, private TV stations ATN Bangla and Somoy TV reported.

In Dhaka, strikers smashed about a dozen vehicles that tried to defy the shutdown, police and witnesses said.

General strike is a common opposition tactic in Bangladesh to embarrass the government.

Last week, the opposition enforced three days of general strikes calling for Ali to be found.

Ali's disappearance has further complicated Bangladesh's fragile parliamentary democracy, already marred by a history of military coups since its independence from Pakistan in 1971.

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### Philippine troops, rebels clash twice, 10 killed

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—Philippine officials say army troops and communist guerrillas have clashed in two provinces in fighting that killed 10 rebels, soldiers and villagers. Army Maj. Angelo Guzman says an undetermined number of New People's Army guerrillas clashed with soldiers Sunday in a remote community in Labo town in Camarines Norte province, southeast of Manila. Four soldiers, three rebels and one villager were killed. Army Col. Generoso Bolina says soldiers killed two female guerrillas in a separate clash Sunday in a farming village in Lopez town in nearby Quezon province. Troops found two homemade bombs, two M16 rifles and rebel documents at the battle scene.

### Cambodian soldier said hurt in Thai border clash

**PHNOM PENH, Cambodia** (AP)—Cambodia says its troops exchanged fire with Thai security forces along their border in their first publicly acknowledged clash since repeated combat there ended a year ago. The deputy military commander of Cambodia's Preah Vihear province, Lt. Col. Men Ly, says Cambodian troops on patrol Sunday were attacked by Thai forces. He says one Cambodian soldier was wounded in a 10-minute exchange of rifle fire and grenades. Thai Army spokesman Col. Sansern Kaewkamnerd says Thai security forces inside Thai territory returned fire after illegal loggers from Cambodia shot at them and fled.

### Report: 20 killed as 2 buses collide in India

**NEW DELHI** (AP)—A news report says two buses have collided head-on and fallen into a ditch in northern India, killing 20 people and injuring 25 others. The Press Trust of India news agency says 15 passengers died at the scene on the outskirts of Gorakhpur, a town 270 kilometers (170 miles) east of Lucknow, the capital of Uttar Pradesh state. It says another five died in hospital. It quoted district administrator Ravindra Naik as saying that at least half a dozen people injured in Sunday's accident were in critical condition.

# World

## Yacht debris, bodies found off US-Mexico coast

**ENSENADA, Mexico** (AP)—A 37-foot racing yacht was reduced to debris that looked "like it had gone through a blender," a searcher said Sunday after the boat apparently collided with a larger vessel, killing three sailors and leaving a fourth missing.

The U.S. Coast Guard, the Mexican navy and civilian vessels scoured the waters off the shore of both countries for the missing sailor before suspending their search Sunday evening.

The crew of four sailors was aboard the Aegean, which was reported Saturday during a 124-mile race from Newport Beach, Calif., to Ensenada, Mexico.

It was California's second deadly accident this month involving an ocean race.

Race officials said they had few explanations for what may have happened to the Aegean other than it must have collided with a ship like a freighter or tanker that did not see the smaller vessel.

If the smaller boat was bobbing around in light wind, the crew might not have been able to get out of the way of a larger ship, said Rich Roberts, a spokesman for the Newport Ocean Sailing Association, the race organizer.

The race goes through shipping lanes and it's possible for a large ship to hit a sailboat and not even know it, especially at night, Roberts said.

AP

This Friday, April 27, 2012, photo shows the Aegean with crew members at the start of a 125-mile Newport Beach, Calif. to Ensenada, Mexico yacht race.

The Coast Guard said conditions were fine for sailing, with good visibility and moderate ocean swells of 6-to-8 feet. Officials had not yet determined the cause of the accident, and would not speculate late Sunday on what ship, if any, might have collided with the sailboat.

A race tracking system indicated the Aegean disappeared about 1:30 a.m. PDT (4:30 a.m. EDT) Saturday, he added.

Other yachts near the Coronado Islands in Mexico—four small, mostly uninhabited islands—reported seeing debris Saturday morning.

Two of the dead were William Reed Johnson Jr., 57, of Torrance, Calif., and Joseph Lester Stewart, 64, of Bradenton, Fla. The San Diego County Medical Examiner's office was withholding the name of the third sailor pending notification of relatives.

Calls to Johnson's and Stewart's homes went unanswered Sunday.

The Aegean is registered to Theo Mavromatis, 49, of Redondo Beach, Calif. The race association didn't know if he was aboard, but Gary Gilpin at Marina Sailing, which rents out the Aegean when Mavromatis isn't using it, said the 49-year-old skipper took the yacht out earlier in the week for the competition.

Gilpin said Mavromatis, an engineer, was an experienced sailor who had won the Newport to Ensenada race in the past. A woman answering a call at a number listed for Mavromatis declined to answer questions.

Eric Lamb was the first to find debris of the boat—most no larger than six inches—scattered over about two square miles Saturday as he worked safety patrol on the race. He saw a small refrigerator, a white seat cushion and empty containers of yogurt and soy milk.

"We pulled a lot of boats off the rocks over the years and boats that hit the rocks, they don't look like that. This was almost like it had gone through a blender," said Lamb, 62.

A Coast Guard helicopter circling overhead directed him and a partner to two floating bodies. Both had severe cuts and bruises, and one of them had major head trauma.

Two race participants who were in the area at the time the Aegean disappeared said they saw or heard a freighter.

Cindy Arosteguy of Oxnard, Calif., remembers hearing on her radio someone say, "Do you see us?" as she saw a tanker about a half-mile away.

"I got back on the radio and said, `Yes, I see you,'" she said. "It was definitely a freighter."

In Ensenada, several hundred people held a minute of silence for the victims at an awards ceremony that spilled out in a courtyard from a large white canopy at a hotel that served as race headquarters.

Chuck Iverson, commodore of the sailing association, said in an interview that the collision was a "fluke," noting how common night races are along Mexico's Baja California coast.

"We're all shocked by this whole event," he said.

The deaths are the first fatalities in the race's 65 years, the sponsor said.

Racing boats are required to use lights at night, Iverson said, although the boats are not inspected unless a competitor suspects a problem and tells race officials.

The race attracts sailors of all skills, including some who are new to long distances.

## 21 killed in north Nigeria church service attacks

**KANO, Nigeria** (AP)—Gunmen attacked worship services at a university campus and a church Sunday in northern Nigeria, killing at least 21 people in coordinated assaults that saw panicked Christians gunned down as they tried to flee, witnesses and officials said.

The deadlier attack targeted an old section of Bayero University's campus in the city of Kano where churches hold Sunday services, with gunmen killing at least 16 people and wounding at least 22 others, according to the Nigerian Red Cross.

A later attack in the northeast city of Maiduguri saw gunmen open fire at a Church of Christ in Nigeria chapel, killing five people, including a pastor preparing for Communion, witnesses said.

No group immediately claimed responsibility, but the attacks bore similarities to others carried by a radical Islamist sect known as Boko Haram.

The Bayero University attack occurred around an old theater and lecture halls where local churches hold services, Kano state police commissioner Ibrahim Idris said. The gunmen rode into the campus on motorcycles, then threw small explosives made out of soda cans around the area, Idris said.

The worshippers ran out in an attempt to escape, only to be shot by the waiting gunmen, the commissioner said.

"By the time we responded, they entered (their) motorcycles and disappeared into the neighborhood," the commissioner said.

After the attack, police and soldiers cordoned off the campus as gunfire echoed in the surrounding streets. Abubakar Jibril, a spokesman for Nigeria's National Emergency Management Agency, said security forces refused to allow rescuers to enter the campus. Soldiers also turned away journalists from the university.

The city of Maiduguri, the target of second attack, is where Boko Haram once had its main mosque.

Witnesses who declined to give their names out of fear the sect would target them said the gunmen stormed into the service and began firing. Most escaped, though as people came out of hiding later they found the pastor dead in a pool of blood in the sanctuary, witnesses said. Four other worshippers died in the attack, they said.

## Sudan declares emergency on border with south

**KHARTOUM, Sudan** (AP)—Sudan declared a state of emergency Sunday in areas bordering South Sudan, giving authorities wide powers of arrest a day after they detained three foreigners in a flashpoint town along the frontier.

The detentions and state of emergency heightened tensions even further along border between the old rivals, who in the past month came to the brink of an all-out war because of renewed fighting in disputed areas.

Sudanese officials have accused South Sudan of using foreigner fighters during its assault on the oil-rich Heglig region, which Sudan claims. Southern Sudanese troops briefly captured the area, amid rising international concerns of an escalation in the fighting between the two countries.

Sudanese army spokesman Col. Sawarmy Khaled claimed on state television late Saturday that four people arrested in the Heglig region, including a Briton, a Norwegian, a South African and a South Sudanese, had military backgrounds. He alleged they were carrying out military activities in Heglig, but did not elaborate. Khaled said the arrests prove its government claims that South Sudan uses foreign fighters.

## US special forces help in hunt for warlord Kony

**OBO, Central African Republic** (AP)—Deep in the jungle, this small, remote Central African village is farther from the coast than any point on the continent. It's also where three international armies have zeroed in on Joseph Kony, one of the world's most wanted warlords.

Obo was the first place in the Central African Republic that Kony's Lord's Resistance Army attacked in 2008; today, it's one of four forward operating locations where U.S. special forces have paired up with local troops and Ugandan soldiers to seek out Kony, who is believed likely to be hiding out in the rugged terrain northwest of the town. For seven years he has been wanted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes and crimes against humanity after his forces cut a wide and bloody swath across several central African nations with rapes, abductions and killings.

Part of the LRA's success in eluding government forces has been its ability to slip back and forth over the porous borders of the Central African Republic, South Sudan and Congo. But since late last year, U.S. forces have been providing intelligence, looking at patterns of movement, and setting up better communications to link the countries' forces together so that they can better track the guerrilla force.

Sent by President Barack Obama at the end of 2011, the 100 U.S. soldiers are split up about 15 to 30 per base, bringing in American technology and experience to assist local forces.

Exact details on specific improvements that the American forces have brought to the table, however, are classified, to avoid giving Kony the ability to take countermeasures.

"We don't necessarily go and track into the bush but what we do is we incorporate our experiences with the partner nation's experiences to come up with the right solution to go out and hopefully solve this LRA problem," said Gregory, a 29-year-old captain from Texas, who would only give his first name in accordance with security guidelines.

The U.S. troops also receive reports from local hunters and others that they help analyze together with surveillance information.

"It's very easy to blame everything on the LRA but there are other players in the region—there are poachers, there are bandits, and we have to sift that to filter what is LRA," he said.

### Ruthless rebels

*The Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), formed in 1987, has been accused of widespread human rights violation.*

**1961** Joseph Kony is born in Odek, in northern Uganda; he is a self-proclaimed mystic

**1988** Kony, others splinter off from rebels that sign peace deal with the Ugandan government; Kony names group Uganda Christian Democratic Army; begins attacking government

**1991** Kony renames group Lord's Resistance Army; operates in northern Uganda from bases in southern Sudan; terrorizes civilians for years using abduction, rape, maiming, mass killing

**2005** International Criminal Court issues arrest warrants for Kony, four other senior LRA leaders

**Recent years** Conflict has spread to neighboring countries; tens of thousands killed, 1.5 million displaced

© 2012 MCT

Source: GlobalSecurity.org, BBC

# Focus

# Weaker al-Qaida still plots payback for US raid

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—A year after the U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden, al-Qaida is hobbled and hunted, too busy surviving for the moment to carry out another Sept. 11-style attack on U.S. soil.

But the terrorist network dreams still of payback, and U.S. counterterrorist officials warn that, in time, its offshoots may deliver.

A decade of wars in Iraq and Afghanistan that has cost the U.S. about $1.28 trillion and 6,300 U.S. troops lives has forced al-Qaida's affiliates to regroup, from Yemen to Iraq. Bin Laden's No. 2, Ayman al-Zawahri, is thought to be hiding, out of U.S. reach, in Pakistan's mountains, just as bin Laden was for so many years.

"It's wishful thinking to say al-Qaida is on the brink of defeat," says Seth Jones, a Rand analyst and adviser to U.S. special operations forces. "They have increased global presence, the number of attacks by affiliates has risen, and in some places like Yemen, they've expanded control of territory."

It's a complicated, somewhat murky picture for Americans to grasp.

U.S. officials say bin Laden's old team is all but dismantled. But they say new branches are hitting Western targets and U.S. allies overseas, and still aspire to match their parent organization's milestone of Sept. 11, 2001.

The deadliest is in Yemen.

"They are continuing to try to again, carry out an attack against U.S. persons inside of Yemen, as well as against the homeland," White House counterterrorism advisor John Brennan said Sunday on ABC's "This Week."

"We're working very closely with our Yemeni partners to track down all these leads," he said.

Brennan says there's no sign of an active revenge plot against U.S. targets, but U.S. citizens in Pakistan and beyond are being warned to be vigilant ahead of the May 2 anniversary of the night raid. U.S. helicopters swooped down on bin Laden's compound in the Pakistani army town of Abbottabad, killing him, one of his sons, two couriers and their wives.

The last view for Americans of the mastermind behind the Sept. 11 attacks was that of a wizened old man sitting in front of an old television, wrapped in a blanket.

The world may never see photographic proof of his death. U.S. District Judge James E. Boasberg in Washington ruled last week that the Obama administration, under the Freedom of Information Act, would not have to turn over images of bin Laden during or after the raid.

"Verbal descriptions of the death and burial of Osama Bin Laden will have to suffice," Boasberg wrote in his ruling on the lawsuit by the public interest group Judicial Watch.

Bin Laden's killing and al-Qaida's stumbling efforts to regroup are now the national security centerpiece of President Barack Obama's re-election campaign.

The White House frequently cites the president's decision to approve the raid, with only a 50-50 chance that bin Laden was even at the compound. Obama could have gone down in history as the man who put the Navy SEALs and the relationship with Pakistan in jeopardy, while failing to catch the al-Qaida leader.

"Al-Qaida was and is our No. 1 enemy," White House spokesman Jay Carney said last week. "So it's a part of his foreign policy record, obviously, but it's also part of a very serious endeavor to keep our country safe."

How safe remains in question.

U.S. officials say al-Qaida is less able to carry out a complex attack like Sept. 11 and they rule out al-Qaida's ability to attack with weapons of mass destruction in the coming year. These officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they say publicly identifying themselves could make them a target of the terrorist group.

U.S. counterterrorist forces have killed roughly half of al-Qaida's top 20 leaders since the raid. That includes U.S.-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, killed by a drone in Yemen last September, less than six months after bin Laden's death.

Only a few of the original al-Qaida team remain, and most of the new names on the U.S. target lists are relative unknowns, officials say.

"The last terror attack was seven years ago in London and they haven't had any major attacks in the U.S." says Peter Bergen, an al-Qaida expert who once met bin Laden. "They are recruiting no-hopers and dead-enders."

Yet Zawahri is still out there. Though constantly hunted, he has managed to release 13 audio and video messages to followers since bin Laden's death, a near record-rate of release according to the IntelCenter, a private intelligence firm. He has urged followers to seize on the unrest left by the Arab Spring to build organizations and influence in Egypt, Libya and elsewhere, and back rebels in Syria—a call that U.S. intelligence officials say is being heeded.

U.S. attempts to deliver a "knockout punch" to Zawahri and his followers in Pakistan have been hamstrung by a breakdown in relations with Pakistan's government over the bin Laden raid.

Pakistani officials saw the raid as a violation of their sovereignty, made worse by a U.S. friendly fire attack that killed almost two dozen Pakistani troops on the border with Afghanistan last fall. Pakistan's parliament called for a redrafting of what the U.S. is allowed to do, and where.

CIA drone strikes in Pakistan's border area continue, but are limited to a relatively small area of the tribal region.

"Our efforts are focused on one small kill box and, we've hit them hard, but they still maintain a vital network throughout Pakistan" says Bill Roggio, editor of the Long War Journal, which tracks U.S. counterterrorism efforts worldwide.

Al-Qaida also takes shelter in Pakistan's urban areas, as shown by the bin Laden raid, and the CIA's efforts to search those areas is often blocked by the Pakistani intelligence service.

U.S. officials say they believe factions within the agency shelter and even fund al-Qaida's senior leaders and related militant groups such as the Haqqani network, which attacks U.S. troops in Afghanistan, from their Pakistani safe haven. Pakistan denies the charge.

Afghanistan is the temporary home to up to 100 al-Qaida fighters at any single time, U.S. officials say, adding that a steady series of U.S. special operations raids is essential to keeping them out. With the withdrawal of U.S. forces, U.S. counterterrorism officials fear al-Qaida could return.

By the numbers, al-Qaida's greatest presence is still greatest in Iraq, where intelligence officials estimate up to a 1,000 fighters have refocused their campaign from striking now-absent U.S. troops to hitting the country's Shiite-dominated government.

Yemen's al-Qaida of the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) is becoming a major draw for foreign fighters as it carves out a stronghold in the south of the country, easily defeating Yemeni forces preoccupied battling tribal and political unrest. The White House recently agreed to expanded drone strikes to give the CIA and the military greater leeway to target militant leaders.

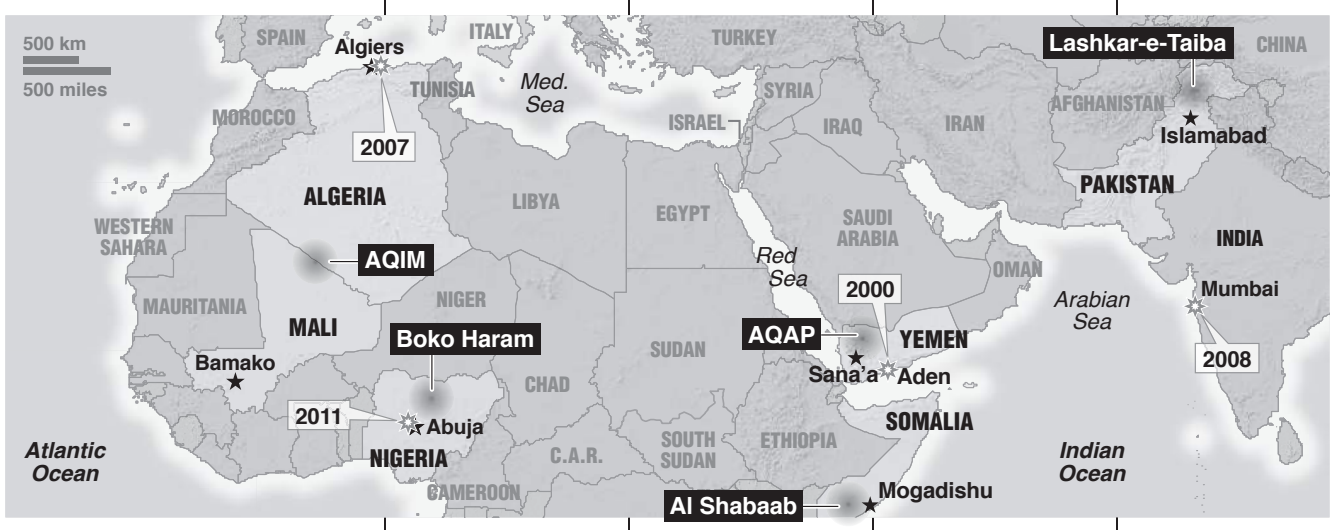
This al-Qaida group has been a major threat since 2009, when one of its adherents tried to bring down a jetliner over Detroit.

Al-Qaida affiliates such as al-Shabab in Somalia are struggling to carry out attacks in the face of a stepped up CIA-U.S. military campaign, and a loss of popular support after blocking U.N. food aid to some 4 million starving Somalis, officials say.

## Terrorism after bin Laden

*A year after the killing of Osama bin Laden, several Islamist groups loosely allied with al-Qaida continue terrorist activities throughout Northern Africa and the Middle East. A look at five of these groups:*

| | Boko Haram | Al-Qaida in Islamic Magreb (AQIM) | Al Shabaab | Al-Qaida in Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) | Lashkar-e-Taiba |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Base | Northern Nigeria | Algeria, Mali | Somalia | Yemen | Northwest Pakistan |
| Origin | **2002** Started by cleric Mohammed Yusef; 2009, group began shoot-outs with police; Yusef captured, killed in detention | **1992** After Algerian elections were cancelled at the point when Islamists had chance to win | **2006** Began as militant wing of an Islamist group that controlled most of southern Somallia | **2009** Merger of Yemeni and Saudi al-Qaida branches | **1993** Began as military wing of Islamist group Markaz-ad-Dawa-wal-Irshad; recruited fighters for Taliban |
| Stated goals | Bring Sharia law to Nigeria; name means "Western Education is Forbidden" | Oust Algerian rulers; shares al-Qaida's goals; has added U.S. as target | Establish Sharia law in Somalia, drive out African Union peacekeepers | Establish safe haven in Yemen; inspire others to attack international targets | Islamic rule in India; unite Muslim-majority regions that surround Pakistan |
| Tactics | Suicide bombs, vehicle-borne IEDs to attack churches, police, government | Well armed; raises money through kidnapping | Suicide attacks; insurgency against government | Suicide bombs, kidnapping in Sudan | Machine guns, rocket-propelled grenades, explosives |




| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Connections | Claims support from AQIM, Taliban; hints of training from al Shabaab | Osama bin Laden was early supporter; 2006, merged with al-Qaida | Claimed an affiliation with al-Qaida since 2007 | One of the founders was close to bin Laden | Was in contact with bin Laden; operates in India, Afghanistan, Chechnya |
| High-profile attacks (☼ Some locations mapped above) | **Aug. 26, 2011** Attack on UN offices in Abuja, Nigeria; about 20 killed<br>**Dec. 25, 2011** Nigerian churches hit by bombs, 40 die | **April 11, 2007** Car bombs outside prime minister's office, police stations in Algiers; at least 23 killed; 160 injured | **July 11, 2010** Bombings in Kampala, Uganda during World Cup; killed at least 70 | **Oct. 12, 2000** Attack on USS Cole; 13 killed<br>**Dec. 25, 2009** Failed underwear bomb plot on flight 253 to Detroit | **Nov. 26, 2008** Ten armed terrorists launch three days of coordinated attacks in Mumbai, India; kill 164, injure 308 |

Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau Graphic: Judy Treible, Robert Dorrell

© 2012 MCT

AP

This undated image taken from video released by Qatar's Al-Jazeera televison broadcast Oct. 5, 2001, purports to show al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden, left, and his top lieutenant, Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahiri.

# Overdrive

## 2012 Buick Verano is a breath of fresh air

BY LARRY PRINTZ
THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

The 2012 Verano is a new compact sedan from that near-luxury nameplate, Buick.
MCT

Most of us pride ourselves on being open-minded, able to accept a new experience without prejudice.

So, if I told you that the new compact 2012 Buick Verano was worth a test drive, would you believe me?

Most likely, no.

To most folks, Buicks are soft-riding geezer-pleasers meant for cruising slowly in the left lane with a driver oblivious to the fact that their left turn signal is flashing.

You're entitled to your opinion, but it's as outdated as a VCR.

Despite the presence of such vehicles as the Autobahn-bred Buick Regal, most buyers will bypass Buick in a mistaken belief that they are still geared for the grandparent set.

But the Verano—which means "summer" in Spanish—refutes that notion in a way that Buick's previous compact—the truly dreadful Skylark, last seen 15 years ago—couldn't.

Like the Skylarks that preceded it, the Verano shares its underpinnings, mostly with the Chevrolet Cruze. But there's much greater differentiation than in the past, and goes beyond the Verano's attractive styling.

Consider its engine. Whereas the Cruze offers a pair of four-cylinder engines, both rated at 134 horsepower, the Cruze offers just one driveline: a larger, 180-hp four-banger matched to a six-speed automatic transmission.

The bigger mill endows the sedan with greater refinement and sophistication than its cheaper sibling. There's enough power for spirited driving, yet it doesn't seem to affect fuel economy too greatly. In fact, the new Verano's fuel consumption isn't significantly different from an Acura TSX, one of its competitors.

Of course, if you're actually brave enough to step into a Buick showroom and try a Verano, you'll find it possesses a finely tuned ride that will surprise you. For those expecting a flabby ride, you'll be surprised at how lively the car feels. Yet it ably delivers a comfortable, quiet ride, without allowing the worst roads shocks from registering.

Braking is linear, steering has a nice weight and cornering behavior is well-tamed. Those who crave an ultra-firm European ride will find the Regal more to their liking than the Verano, but most folks will find the Verano a rewarding driving experience.

Safety features include 10 standard air bags, anti-lock brakes, traction control, electronic brake force distribution, and brake assist. Rear parking assist is available on some models, which sounds a chime when approaching an object, but a rear backup camera is unavailable.

The car's good manners are enhanced by a cabin filled with soft-touch surfaces and two-tone accents. It feels premium, something that couldn't be said of any compact Skylarks of decades past. Blue ambient lighting warms the interior at night.

And there's an ample dose of technology, including Buick IntelliLink, a standard feature that uses Bluetooth or a USB port to connect a smartphone to a seven-inch LED high-resolution display radio that enables streaming stereo audio from the phone or any Bluetooth device.

Other standard items include automatic climate control, electronic parking brake, steering wheel-mounted radio controls and remote staring. Options include leather seats, heated steering wheel and push-button ignition.

While the interior does benefit from a sophisticated feel and roomy front seat accommodations, rear-seat legroom is limited. Trunk space is generous for the size of the vehicle.

The 2012 Buick Verano won't blow away boy racers, but for the rest of us, it will impress with its superior build quality, competitive driveline and luxury aura.

And it's delivered at a truly attractive price.

As good as this vehicle is—and it's very impressive—two questions remain.

The first revolves around the Verano's price. Like its competitors, the Audi A3, Lexus IS 250 and Acura TSX, you can buy a larger midsize car for the same money, but with fewer bells and whistles. So are buyers willing to pay several thousand dollars more for the extra pampering these entry-level luxury models offer?

And secondly, will they buy one that wears the Buick nameplate?

If you're brave enough to step into a Buick showroom and try one, the answers may be yes.

*Larry Printz is automotive editor at* The Virginian-Pilot *in Norfolk, Va. He can be reached at larry.printz@pilotonline.com.*

**NUTS & BOLTS**

- **Engine:** 2.4-liter DOHC four-cylinder
- **Wheelbase:** 105.7 inches
- **Length:** 183.9 inches
- **Weight:** 3,300 pounds
- **Cargo space:** 14 cubic feet
- **EPA rating (city/highway):** 21/32 mpg
- **Fuel consumption:** 27 mpg
- **Fuel type:** Regular or E85
- **Base price:** $22,585
- Price as tested: $26,460
- **What we say:** A stunningly superior small Buick
- **Pros:** Power, styling, handling and fuel economy
- **Cons:** Tight back seat, lacks rear-view camera option

(Prices exclude destination charges.)

## Overheating has several possible causes

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION: My daughter drives a 1998 Dodge Stratus ES with more than 120,000 miles. Recently, the engine started overheating. At highway speeds, the engine operates within the normal temperature range. At city speeds, however, the engine quickly overheats.**

**No steam appears when the engine is overheating, so I assume the radiator cap and hoses are not leaking. What tests I can do to rule out the simple problems like a worn radiator cap, malfunctioning thermostat, plugged radiator, or air in the cooling system? Your advice is greatly appreciated.**

**ANSWER:** Is the car actually overheating? True overheating occurs when the coolant reaches its boiling point, creating bubbles in the coolant that hamper the coolant's flow from the water pump. This leads to increasing and ultimately out-of-control coolant temperatures. Excess pressure will force open the cap and drive boiling fluid into the recovery tank. There may also be bubbling and boiling felt and heard in the upper radiator hose—be careful to wear gloves and never loosen or open the radiator cap when the coolant is hot.

Here are the "ifs." Overheating can occur if the radiator cap does not hold pressure in the system. Normal coolant temperatures can exceed 212 degrees, so if the cap can't hold pressure, the coolant can boil at normal temperatures.

Is the electric fan operating? The fan should come on when coolant temperature reaches a certain level or when the air conditioner is on. Test by turning on the A/C.

Are the front of the A/C condenser and the front of the radiator clear of leaves, bugs and debris? You may have to remove the upper radiator cover to check the front of the radiator. Flush from the rear forward with compressed air or water.

If the thermostat is not fully opening at the proper temperature (typically 195 to 205 degrees), engine operating temperatures may be too high. Coolant coming from the thermostat outlet should be at full operating temperature. If the water pump is not pumping adequately due to a slipping belt or worn impeller, coolant will not circulate properly.

And finally, if you start the engine from dead cold with the radiator cap off, does coolant bubble out of the filler neck? If so, combustion pressure may be getting into the coolant from a head gasket leak.

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q: I asked my Dodge dealer about servicing the four-speed automatic transmission on my 2004 Dodge Ram 3500 diesel. He said that they drop the pan, drain the fluid, adjust the bands, replace the filters and put new fluid in. I also asked an independent shop and they said about the same thing as the dealer with the exception of adjusting the bands—they said that the bands are not adjustable on that transmission. Who is right?**

**A:** The dealer. The 48RE four-speed transmission has two bands—the front kickdown band and the rear low/reverse band. Routine transmission service suggested by Chrysler should include this: "Check the adjustment of the front and rear bands; adjust as necessary."

■ ■ ■ ■

**Q: I've got a 2005 Toyota Sienna with about 65,000 miles on it. Recently, when I make a 90-degree right turn or accelerate quickly, the parking brake warning light flashes on momentarily. Left turns and braking do not prompt the same problem. I have disabled the anti-skid system and saw no change. Of course, I have set and released the parking brake itself as well, with no change. Could this be something like a rear disk brake/parking brake wear sensor or a loose microswitch?**

**A:** Remember the KISS (Keep It Simple, Stupid) principle. In automotive vernacular, it means look for the simple answers first. Check the fluid level in the brake master cylinder. If it's low, it can create exactly the symptoms you describe. When accelerating or cornering, the fluid moves away from the level sensor, momentarily triggering the warning light. Inspect brake system wiring harnesses for shorts. A scan tool can identify issues with the brake or traction control systems.

## Nissan wants to woo more US car buyers

**DETROIT** (AP)—Mention Nissan to most car drivers and they think of the Altima. And not much else.

The sedan is America's second-best selling car and Nissan's top seller by far. When the new version goes on sale in July, it will likely be a hit. But Nissan's other models—such as the Sentra small car and the boxy Cube—are struggling to win buyers, even as auto sales surge. They're old, inefficient, or just plain odd. And their designs are inconsistent, which keeps customers from sticking with the brand when they move up or down a car size. That's making it hard for Nissan to hang on to customers or woo new ones in the U.S.

Nissan is hoping to win over U.S. buyers with some new models in key segments. In addition to the Altima, Nissan will roll out new versions of the Versa hatchback, Sentra, and Pathfinder and Rogue SUVs over the next 15 months. The company promises more emphasis on fuel economy, more luxurious interiors, handsome and consistent styling and updated dashboard technology. The new Pathfinder, for example, will be lighter and nimbler, which will improve fuel economy and make it a smoother ride.

The new vehicles should help Nissan step out of the shadow of its Japanese competitors, Toyota and Honda, who have outsold Nissan in the U.S. nearly every year since the late 1980s. Toyota's Camry, the best-selling car in the U.S., bested the Altima by 40,000 vehicles last year, and Toyota commanded a 14 percent share of the U.S. market in the first three months of this year compared with 9 percent for Nissan. Nissan outsold Honda by 2,000 cars in that time, but to do that it resorted to some of its worst habits, including high incentive spending and low-profit sales to rental fleets.

Nissan lost U.S. customers in the 1990s, when it was faltering financially and producing bland cars. CEO Carlos Ghosn brought the company back to profitability in the early 2000s, after joining forces with French carmaker Renault S.A. in 1999 and embarking on a multi-year restructuring. Ghosn's feat is so celebrated in Japan that he is the hero of a comic book series there.

The profits have let Nissan invest in innovative products like the Nissan Leaf, which was the first all-electric car sold in the U.S., and the Murano CrossCabriolet, which is the only convertible SUV on the market.

# Life & Style

## Hundreds flock to meet '50 Shades of Grey' author

**MIAMI** (AP)—Young school teachers, middle-aged nurses and even the elderly flocked to a Miami book store Sunday for a chance to meet the author of the bestselling erotic romance "Fifty Shades of Grey" in the launch of her U.S. book tour.

British newcomer E L James drew more than 500 men and women at a morning book signing and spoke that evening to a boisterous, uninhibited crowd at the historic Biltmore Hotel. It was her second-ever book signing, yet the size of the crowd snaking through the store with mimosas and books in hand drew comparisons to the past response for writers such as Anne Rice and even politicians.

"This is a literary phenomenon," said Mitchell Kaplan, owner of Books & Books, the independent bookstore where James was signing copies. "E L struck a nerve, and her storytelling speaks to so many people."

In a few short months, James has snagged a seven-figure contract with Vintage Books, and Universal Pictures and Focus Films have purchased the rights to all three books in the trilogy about an unworldly college student who begins an unusual romantic relationship with a wealthy young businessman. The books have been called "mommy porn" for their sexual content and large, mostly female following, though men are signing up for autographs as well.

"I read it through lunch breaks and I'm giggling," said Laura Vargas, 31, an executive assistant at a large insurance company. "I'm like, 'I can't believe she just wrote that.'"

James began writing the books as fan fiction to Stephenie Meyer's "Twilight" series and quickly developed a cult-like following of her own. The romance between main characters Anastasia Steele and Christian Grey is surprising because of its unconventional nature: Grey asks Steele to sign a contract, and she agrees to be his "submissive" and to partake in a range of erotic activities. The stories were first published online, and as word of mouth spread, droves of people—many of them not traditional readers of romantic or erotic fiction—began downloading them on iPads and Kindles.

"I'm staggered by this," James said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I never set out to do this."

Until recently, the affable, laid-back author had been mostly preoccupied with her work as a television executive, taking care of her two teenage sons and doing mundane house chores. She was raised in London, studied history in college and dabbled once in a while with writing, but never spent a large amount of time on it until reading the "Twilight" books.

AP

Author E L James holds a copy of her new erotic fiction book "Fifty Shades of Grey" at a book signing in Coral Gables, Fla., Sunday, April 29, 2012.

"I tried a couple of times, but never thought I could," James said of writing novels.

Even now, she's not sure she'll be able to write another.

"It's really quite daunting," she said.

A broad swath of mostly women, of all ages and backgrounds, showed up Sunday at the bookstore in Miami's upscale Coral Gables neighborhood. A young server went around with a tray of bright-colored drinks, and fans exchanged giddy stories about their experiences reading the books.

Emilia Diaz, a 57-year-old aesthetician, said it was a man who introduced her to the books. They had been talking online and over the phone for months and finally agreed to meet in person. On their first date, he suggested she read the books.

"Maybe he wants you to be his submissive," joked her cousin, Sandra Sousa-Druckman, an interior designer.

Diaz came in a group of four women, the eldest being Sousa-Druckman's 87-year-old mother, Cathy Perkins. Perkins, who was married for 60 years, said she usually reads Danielle Steele but wants to take up "Fifty Shades of Grey" and its two follow-up novels next. She had a copy of the second book, "Fifty Shades Darker," for James to autograph.

Stephanie Madison, 59, a bioterrorism coordinator at Jackson Hospital, said her boss had recommended the books to her. She then approached her daughter, Chantele Cogdell, about buying her a copy for Mother's Day.

Cogdell, who works in medical billing and coding, went online to find out what the book was about. Cogdell usually buys her mother flowers, purses or gift cards.

"I said, `You really want this?'" Cogdell recalled.

"Yes!" her mother enthusiastically replied.

Anne Messitte, the publisher of Vintage Books, said the overwhelming response to James' second book signing, and the first in her tour, was unprecedented for a new writer.

"I think at the heart of it, these are wonderful, modern stories that engross the reader," she said.

James herself is at a loss to explain why the books have become so popular, so quickly. Fans who have written or spoken with her at events have had different reactions; some say their sex lives have improved, while others have said the book helped them in dealing with an adopted child. The fictional character Christian Grey was adopted at a young age.

Dressed casually in a jean jacket and with an arm full of silver bracelets, James sipped a glass of water at a quiet bar on the bottom floor of the Biltmore before her appearance. The hotel has hosted several presidents; President Barack Obama held a fundraiser there recently. It's also a popular choice for weddings, with a church just across the street.

## New 007 film to depict spy's inner demons

**ISTANBUL** (AP)—The next James Bond movie, "Skyfall," promises the usual action, exotic locations, scheming villains and beautiful women. For fans of the original novels by Ian Fleming, there's more: a journey into the troubled psyche of the iconic spy.

After all, the director of the 23rd film in the franchise, which spans half a century, is Sam Mendes, whose cinematic studies of personalities in emotional turmoil and even meltdown include "American Beauty" and "Revolutionary Road."

"You always go back to the Fleming because the character Fleming created over a number of novels was incredibly complex," Mendes said Sunday at a news conference in Istanbul, where the crew of "Skyfall" has filmed.

"Some people sometimes forget in the cliche of Bond, which is the international playboy, and someone who's always untroubled, and almost never breaks a sweat, that actually what (Fleming) created was a very conflicted character," said Mendes, who was joined by cast members, including Bond actor Daniel Craig.

Fleming created a secret agent who was sometimes frustrated and ambivalent about his job. Many Bond movies sidestepped the inner demons, showcasing instead a debonair 007 whose exploits were enhanced with gaudy gadgets and special effects.

In Fleming's last novels, Mendes said, Bond suffered from a "combination of lassitude, boredom, depression, difficulty with what he's chosen to do for a living, which is to kill. That makes him a much more interesting character, and some of those things are explored in this movie, because Daniel as an actor is capable of exploring them."

It is Craig's third portrayal of the spy, and he introduced a darker side to Bond in his earlier roles in 2008's "Quantum of Solace" in 2008 and "Casino Royale" in 2006.

Craig reread Bond novels as part of his preparation for "Skyfall," and a delay in film production, caused when studio MGM filed for bankruptcy in 2010, allowed him more time to discuss the character with Mendes.

He said he had spoken to intelligence agents about their work, and has some inkling of the hardships they face.

"I've got the better job," said Craig, whose last movie was "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo," the thriller adapted from the novel by Stieg Larsson.

"Skyfall" is due for release on Oct. 26 in Britain and in other locations shortly after that. Judi Dench returns as spy chief M and the film introduces English actress Naomie Harris as a field agent named Eve and Berenice Marlohe of France as a character named Severine.

Producers are enigmatic about the plot, though they have said the relationship between Bond and M is tested and MI6, the spy agency, comes under attack.

"Skyfall" includes scenes in London, Scotland, Turkey and China. In Istanbul, the crew filmed scenes with motorcycles at the Grand Bazaar, a covered market that dates to the early Ottoman period. The 1963 Bond movie, "From Russia With Love," included scenes in Istanbul. It starred Sean Connery.

Fleming, whose experiences as a British intelligence officer in World War II helped him conceive the Bond novels, died in 1964.

Some things about the spy's image on screen (as well as in the books) won't change. Asked to describe Bond's love life in "Skyfall," Craig smiled.

"It's very rich," he said. "We're making a Bond movie, so that kind of speaks for itself."

In Loving Memory Of
Neveah Shanae Sablan Casil
Lovingly known as "Nae-Nae"
Born to life on December 29, 2007
and was called to eternal life on April 23, 2012.
In her new life, she now joins her:
Grandfather: Gregorio S. Sablan
Cousin Antonio "JunJun S. Sablan
Great Grandparents: Rosa Q. Casil & Sammy L. Engoy
Aunties: Xylina C. Camacho & Angel C. Camacho
Great Grandparents: Ana J. Duenas & Enrique A. Duenas
Her loving memories will forever live in the hearts of her:
Parents: Anthony Jay Casil & Sharlyn M. Sablan
Grandparents: Gina M. Sablan & Joselito L. Bocago
Katherine Q. Casil & Anthony Joe Duenas
Aunties & Uncles (Maternal):
Shelly M. Sablan
George Peter M. Sablan
Faith Christelle M. Bocago
Rita S. & Juan Diego T. Celis & Family
Edward & Lucy S. Sablan & Family
Ramon & Lucy I. Sablan & Family
Antonio M. Sablan & Family
Antonia S. & Serafin Tudela & Family
Donald & Mary Sablan & Family
Aunties & Uncles (Paternal):
Sherlynn M. Casil & Family
Sharlene & Matthew Kisa & Family
Stephanie Jo C. Camacho
Sibling: Jose Azaiah Maratita
On May 2, 2012, her remains will be at Borja Funeral Home.
Viewing and last respects will be held starting at 8:00am until 11:00am.
Immediately after the viewing, interment service will be held at the C.K. Cemetery.
Your presence and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Salamat Po'
From The Family

# HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

**Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!**

Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000

POWER 99 FM SAIPAN, CNMI

$6.00 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
$6.00 All Day Admission For Seniors
$4.75 All Day Admission For Kids (ages 3-11)
$6.00 Student Admission with Valid I.D.
$6.00 Military with Valid I.D.

**TIMEWARP TUESDAY**
$6.00 ALL SHOWS ALL DAY/NIGHT (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND RESTRICTED FEATURES)

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com

dts DOLBY DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING WITH HIGH-BACK LOVESEATS

**Friday, Apr. 27th through Thursday, May. 3rd, 2012**
**OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK**

★ ★ ★ NOW SHOWING ★ ★ ★

**Pirates! Band of Misfits**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:05 | 7:05 | 9:45 |
| Saturday | 1:05 | 4:05 | 7:05 | 9:45 |
| Sunday | 1:05 | 4:05 | 7:05 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | 4:05 | 7:05 | |

Hugh Grant, Brendan Gleeson
Children's/family • Rated PG

**Synopsis**
Set sail for fun with this family-friendly Aardman Animations adventure following a bumbling, abundantly bearded scallywag who competes against his two biggest rivals for the title Pirate of the Year. Try as he might, the Pirate Captain (Hugh Grant) just can't be taken seriously as a plunderer. But that might change if he could only manage to win the Pirate of the Year competition. As the event gets under way, the Pirate Captain makes it his mission to leave dreaded foes Black Bellamy (Jeremy Piven) and Cutlass Liz (Salma Hayek) sinking in his wake.

**Safe**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:30 | 7:30 | 9:50 |
| Saturday | 1:30 | 4:30 | 7:30 | 9:50 |
| Sunday | 1:30 | 4:30 | 7:30 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | 4:30 | 7:30 | |

Jason Statham, Catherine Chan
Crime • Rated R

**The Five Year Engagement**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:15 | 7:15 | 9:55 |
| Saturday | 1:15 | 4:15 | 7:15 | 9:55 |
| Sunday | 1:15 | 4:15 | 7:15 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | 4:15 | 7:15 | |

Jason Segel, Emily Blunt
Comedy • Rated R

★ ★ ★

**The Lucky One**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:25 | 7:25 | 9:40 |
| Saturday | 1:25 | 4:25 | 7:25 | 9:40 |
| Sunday | 1:25 | 4:25 | 7:25 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | 4:25 | 7:25 | |

Zac Efron, Taylor Schilling
Drama • Rated PG 13

**Three Stooges**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:10 | 7:10 | 9:30 |
| Saturday | 1:10 | 4:10 | 7:10 | 9:30 |
| Sunday | 1:10 | 4:10 | 7:10 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | 4:10 | 7:10 | |

Will Sasso, Sean Hayes, Chris Diamantopoulos
Comedy • Rated PG

**The Cabin In The Woods**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:20 | | 9:35 |
| Saturday | | 4:20 | | 9:35 |
| Sunday | | 4:20 | | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | 4:20 | | |

Richard Jenkins, Bradley Whitford
Thriller • Rated R

**Wrath Of The Titans**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | | 7:20 | |
| Saturday | 1:20 | | 7:20 | |
| Sunday | 1:20 | | 7:20 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | | 7:20 | |

Sam Worthington, Liam Neeson
Fantasy • Rated PG 13

**The Hunger Games**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:00 | 7:00 | 10:00 |
| Saturday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:00 | 10:00 |
| Sunday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:00 | |
| Monday thru Thursday | | 4:00 | 7:00 | |

Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson
Science fiction • Rated PG 13

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.
www.gohollywood.com


# 'Avengers' star Hemsworth is omnipresent on screen

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP MOVIE WRITER

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Chris Hemsworth's real superpower seems to be that he's everywhere at once.

The Australian star of last summer's superhero hit "Thor" reprises his role as the Norse god of thunder in "The Avengers," which has begun rolling out in theaters worldwide and in U.S. cinemas May 4, just weeks after his horror tale "The Cabin in the Woods."

On June 1, Hemsworth will be back opposite "Twilight" star Kristen Stewart in the fairy-tale makeover "Snow White and the Huntsman," and late this year, he co-stars in a remake of the action flick "Red Dawn."

Meantime, he's preparing to shoot "Thor 2," due out next year, after he wraps production on Ron Howard's race-car drama "Rush."

It sounds like a superhuman workload worthy of Thor's godly lineage, but "Cabin in the Woods" and "Red Dawn" are leftovers from before Hemsworth shot to stardom when he was cast as the Marvel Comics hero. The two releases were delayed for years because of MGM's bankruptcy, leaving the 28-year-old actor a little edgy about how those older performances of his will play with audiences.

"Selfishly, I look back each week and think, 'Oh, jeez, I knew nothing last week and now I get it.' So to go back three years, I sort of cringe at the thought of what I did then as opposed to now," Hemsworth said. "So that's sort of nerve-racking to think that I've learned more than what's going to be shown on the screen.

"But you have no control over that. That's the nature of the business. I'm proud of all of those films and had a great time making them, and they all kind of are pieces of the puzzle that got me to where I am now."

Where he's at is an enviable place among young actors. The middle brother of actors Luke and Liam Hemsworth, he's at the center of the big-screen mania for comic-book superheroes and has quickly branched into a range of other roles.

In "Rush," Hemsworth plays British Formula One driver James Hunt. In "Snow White," he's the huntsman of the title, a wreck of a man who starts out as the fairy-tale princess' would-be assassin but ends up her ally, training her to take on a wicked queen (Charlize Theron).

Hemsworth hesitated about the huntsman role at first, thinking the fantasy trappings might be too similar to "Thor."

"Then I looked at the character and read the script and thought, 'OK, I haven't seen this version of it before.' He's a drunk and a mess. He's an open wound, and I thought, 'OK, this is a different entry point,'" Hemsworth said. "It's kind of 'Lord of the Rings' on steroids. When I saw a cut of it recently, I was just blown away."

In "The Avengers," Thor's evil brother Loki (Tom Hiddleston) schemes to turn alien invaders loose on Earth. So Thor teams with Robert Downey Jr.'s Iron Man, Mark Ruffalo's Incredible Hulk, Chris Evans' Captain America, Scarlett Johansson's Black Widow and Jeremy Renner's Hawkeye to bring Loki down.

That's a lot of superhero ego in one room, most of the characters used to having things their way rather than working as a unit.

"They all come into the film with a great amount of strength, but then soon realize that none of their strength is as powerful as it can be unless they work together," Hemsworth said. "It's a bit of a message that working together is far more powerful than any individual cause anyone could have."

To hear the cast and "Avengers" director Joss Whedon tell it, the same thing happened with the actors.

"I'd like to tell you some great story about someone being a diva or something, but everyone was pretty well-behaved," Hemsworth said. "We kept each other in check."

AP

In this April 12, 2012 photo, cast member Chris Hemsworth, who portrays Thor in the upcoming film "The Avengers", poses for a portrait in Beverly Hills, Calif. The film will be released in theaters May 4.

# 'Avengers' hurtles to $178.4M overseas debut

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The superhero saga "The Avengers" lived up to its blockbuster buzz with $178.4 million in overseas ticket sales days before it opens in U.S. theaters.

Domestic audiences generally passed on a bunch of new films as fans seem to be in anticipation mode for Disney's "The Avengers," which debuts Friday in the United States after launching in 39 other countries a week earlier.

The huge overseas launch will help fan the frenzy already in place for "The Avengers," the superhero mash-up of Marvel Comics idols whose cast includes Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, Chris Evans, Chris Hemsworth, Mark Ruffalo, Jeremy Renner and Samuel L. Jackson.

"You hope that the magnitude of this kind of opening sends a signal that this is a for-everyone film," said Dave Hollis, head of distribution for Disney. "You can't put up these kinds of numbers if it's just for guys or just for the fans. These numbers say that it is for everyone, 8 to 80."

The Sony Screen Gems ensemble comedy "Think Like a Man" was No. 1 domestically for the second-straight weekend with $18 million.

Four movies were bunched up for the No. 2 spot in the $11 million range: Sony's animated comedy "The Pirates! Band of Misfits" with $11.4 million; the Warner Bros. romantic drama "The Lucky One" with $11.3 million; Lionsgate's blockbuster "The Hunger Games" with $11.25 million; and Universal's romantic comedy "The Five-Year Engagement" with $11.2 million.

Those four films were so close that their rankings from Sunday studio estimates could change once final numbers are released Monday.

Along with "Pirates," whose voice cast was led by Hugh Grant, and "Five-Year Engagement," which stars Jason Segel and Emily Blunt, the other newcomers were Jason Statham's action tale "Safe" from Lionsgate at No. 6 with $7.7 million and John Cusack's Edgar Allan Poe mystery "The Raven" from Relativity Media at No. 7 with $7.3 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "**Think Like a Man**," $18 million.
2. "**The Pirates! Band of Misfits**," $11.4 million *($5.5 million international)*.
3. "**The Lucky One**," $11.3 million *($4.8 million international)*.
4. "**The Hunger Games**," $11.25 million *($7.4 million international).*
5. "**The Five-Year Engagement**," $11.2 million.
6. "**Safe**," $7.7 million *($2.4 million international).*
7. "**The Raven**," $7.3 million.
8. "**Chimpanzee**," $5.5 million.
9. "**The Three Stooges**," $5.4 million.
10. "**The Cabin in the Woods**," $4.5 million *($1.5 million international).*

Overseas, according to Rentrak:

1. "**The Avengers**," $178.4 million.
2. "**Battleship**," $22.5 million.
3. "**Titanic**" in 3-D, $18.5 million.
4. "**American Reunion**," $14.5 million.
5. "**The Hunger Games**," $7.4 million.
6. "**The Pirates! Band of Misfits**," $5.5 million.
7. "**The Lucky One**," $4.8 million.
8. "**Le Prenom**," $4.4 million.

9 (tie). "**Mirror Mirror**," $3.2 million.
9 (tie). "**Wrath of the Titans**," $3.2 million.

# Chris Colfer of 'Glee' writes his Hollywood ticket

By ALICIA RANCILIO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**NEW YORK** (AP)—When "Glee" star Chris Colfer was 8, he began writing a novel. He wrote two pages, called it the first chapter and proudly showed it to his grandmother.

"She said, 'OK, could use some development,'" Colfer said, laughing, in a recent interview.

That memory was worked into his script for the movie "Struck by Lightning," which premiered at this year's Tribeca Film Festival.

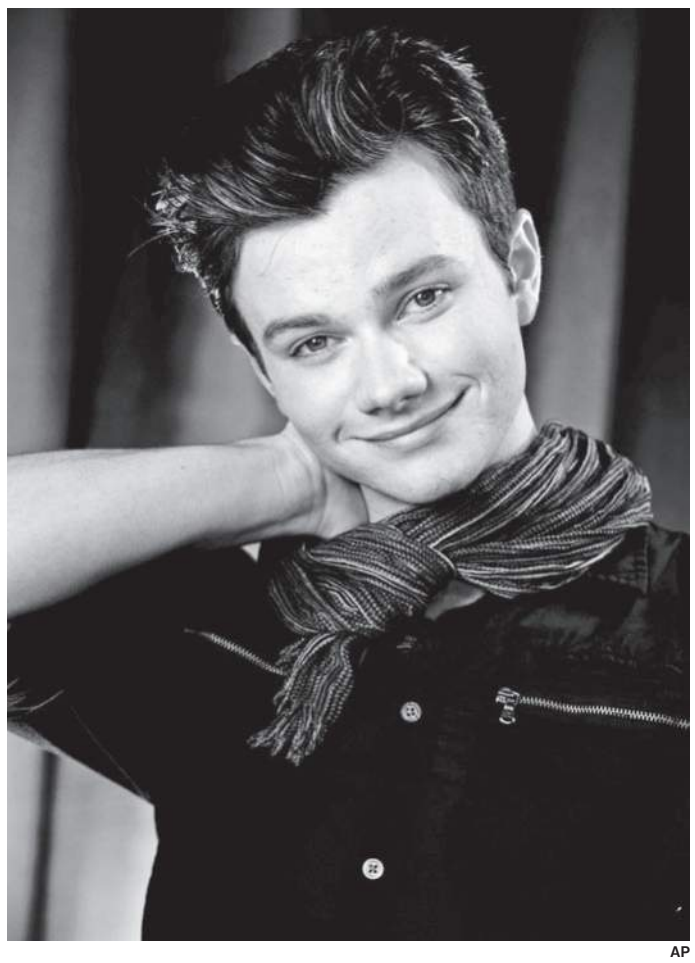
Colfer wrote and stars in the movie. He plays Carson, an ambitious student who blackmails his fellow students into helping him get into Northwestern University.

The 21-year-old actor came up with the idea when he was a teen as a way to vent about his teachers and classmates. He then taught himself how to write a screenplay.

"I would go to my local Borders in Fresno (California) and I would study Sofia Coppola's 'Marie Antoinette' published screenplay. I'd sit there—'cause I couldn't afford it—and I'd read it and I'd read it and I'd teach myself how to screenwrite and how to, you know, frame everything."

Allison Janney plays his mother, and Colfer says he always pictured her in the part.

"I always had her voice in my head for some reason. Always, always," he said.



AP

In this April 21, 2012 file photo, actor Chris Colfer poses for a portrait in New York. Colfer stars in the Fox series, "Glee."

Janney said she was unaware the part was written for her, but loved it immediately.

"I was blown away by Chris' script," she said. "The writing has always been the most important thing to me, and I had an instant connection to his script. The characters were funny and flawed, especially the part of his mother. Then I met with him and was completely charmed by him. ... How can he be so talented and accomplished and charming and be so impossibly young? I can't wait to see what's next for him. Maybe directing?"

Dermot Mulroney, Christina Hendricks and Sarah Hyland ("Modern Family") also star in the movie.

Colfer has just finished a psychological drama he hopes to shoot independently this summer. He also adapted a pilot for the Disney Channel based on Florence Laughlin's children's book "The Little Leftover Witch."

He also signed a deal to publish two children's books. "The Land of Stories," which will be in bookstores in July, is essentially the completion of that story he began writing when he was 8.

"It came from me being a young, curious kid holding a book in my hand and wishing with all my heart that I could just fall into the book and go on these adventures with all the characters," he said.

Colfer said he told his parents when he was growing up that he was going to write and act, and he has made good on those bold declarations. His portrayal of gay teen Kurt Hummel on the Fox show "Glee" has earned him a Golden Globe Award and two Emmy nominations.

Despite the opportunities he's had since "Glee," Colfer says he cannot ever really get used to fame.

"I don't think anyone can prepare you for it. ... You find different ways of dealing with it and getting used to it, but it's not something you can totally settle your mind into. For me, I always feel like I have this massive responsibility because of the kind of platform that 'Glee' gave me. I can never do anything that disappoints anyone. That's my biggest fear—disappointing those people who look up to me."

# Springsteen packs them in for Jazz Fest

**NEW ORLEANS** (AP)—Bruce Springsteen has closed out the first weekend of the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival with a 2 1/2-hour show that combined crowd-pleasers such as "Born to Run" with the cover tune of his new CD, "Wrecking Ball."

Fans began staking out spots when the Fair Grounds opened at 11 a.m. Sunday, rushing from the entrance gates to spread blankets and set up chairs as close to the stage as possible. By the time Springsteen stepped on stage fans stretched around the fairgrounds track, some standing 10 to 12 people deep.

At one point New Orleans legend Dr. John took the stage with Springsteen for a number.

Springsteen last played Jazz Fest in 2006. But if Springsteen was the biggest draw of the day, he was far from the only one.

Soul singer Al Green closed out the day on the Congo Square stage, drawing his faithful.

# Usher debuts new songs during off-Broadway play

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Usher debuted new songs in an unconventional way Friday night: The singer danced to his new music as part of the off-Broadway play "Fuerza Bruta: Look Up."

"Fuerza Bruta" is the fast-paced and acrobatic play in which the audience stands as performers dance and jump around on the walls, onstage and on the floor with the crowd.

Usher worked as its lead "Running Man," beginning the show on a treadmill, bursting though paper-made walls as his No. 1 R&B tune "Climax" blasted in the background.

There was also a plastic pool suspended above the crowd, where dancers moved and splashed around to songs, including one slow groove with lyrics like: "It's raining inside your bed." Water hit the crowd throughout the night, which included members of the press and industry insiders at the invite-only event.

Usher debuted 12 songs Friday. He'll release his seventh album, "Looking for Myself," on June 12.

At one point the Daryl Roth Theatre turned into a pulsating nightclub as Usher's new pop anthems—including the European-flavored "Scream"—played as lights flickered, sirens blasted and confetti burst.

"Fuerza Bruta" means "brute force" in Spanish. The play was developed by Diqui James, the Argentine creator of the long-running "De La Guarda."

Usher will also perform two shows with the cast Saturday that will be open to the public.

This photo provided by the Manchester Police Dept. shows Nicole Houde.

AP

**MANCHESTER, N.H.** (AP)—Police say a former Miss New Hampshire USA faces a simple assault charge stemming from a confrontation with her boyfriend.

Police say Sunday that 26-year-old Nicole Houde was arrested Wednesday. Authorities say the Manchester beauty queen punched, kicked, scratched and bit 33-year-old Scott Nickerson, also of Manchester.

Police say the two were arguing and Nickerson took Houde's cellphone, prompting the physical confrontation.

Houde was the 2010 Miss New Hampshire USA. Miss New Hampshire USA and Miss Teen New Hampshire USA are distinct from Miss New Hampshire and Miss America pageants.

# Irked customers sound off on drive-through decorum

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

**DEAR ABBY**: May I comment on the letter from "Working the Window in Georgia" (Jan. 22), the drive-through worker who said people should have their orders ready when they pull up to the speaker? Many drive-through restaurants place their speakers in FRONT of the first menu you see. Unless you frequent the restaurant, it's impossible to know what you want until you reach the menu. Also, if "Corporate" is timing its employees, then maybe they should dispense with having the employees greet customers with a long list of item suggestions before taking the order. Those of us at the other end of the speaker often cannot understand a word being said, either because the speaker isn't working properly, because the order-taker has a thick accent, or the person is speaking too fast.

PEGGY IN THORNTON, COLORADO

**DEAR PEGGY: My readers agree with you 100 percent! Their biggest "beef" is the order menu being located only at the order window/speaker. Fast food corporate America, please take notice. Read on:**

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: How are we supposed to have any idea of what to order when we don't see the menu until we pull up to the window? This is especially true when I try a new restaurant. If restaurants post anything before that, it is usually just a list of their most expensive combo meals. Sometimes the prices aren't even listed at the preview menu window.

Here are some suggestions for people working the windows:

1. I may not know your menu. So please give me a chance to look it over. If you have a drive-through, I have a right to use it. If you don't want new customers to know what you offer, then I'll be happy to take my business elsewhere.

2. I know you are reading from a script, but if I don't want a combo meal, please do not ask me repeatedly if I want one.

3. Give me a chance to check my order when you hand it to me. I am really tired of getting to my destination only to find out my order is wrong.

4. Do not argue with me if I want to verify that my drink is a diet drink. I am diabetic and a non-diet soda could make me very sick.

5. Please understand that even if I don't have the radio on and there is no background noise, I may still have trouble understanding you. Perhaps the speakers are bad or I am slightly hearing-impaired.

6. Please give me straw if I order a drink.

I have worked fast food before and I know from experience it is not an easy job. Yes, there are rude customers, but there are also rude employees. I know that from experience, too.

LIBBY IN LITTLE ROCK, ARK.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: My husband and I attended his nephew's out-of-state wedding. I shipped a beautiful, expensive set of porcelain dishes from a high-end designer store. The nephew commented, "Those dishes don't go with anything we have." Should we request they be returned or ignore their lack of appreciation?

APPALLED AUNT IN ARIZONA

**DEAR APPALLED: Your nephew's comment was extremely rude. If he and his bride weren't registered, and their preference of a china pattern wasn't clearly stated, then you did the best you could under the circumstances and were generous. Rather than ask for the gift back (which would be equally rude), suggest he and his Mrs. go online and exchange the dishes for a pattern of their choice. Most high-end stores have websites that display their inventory.**

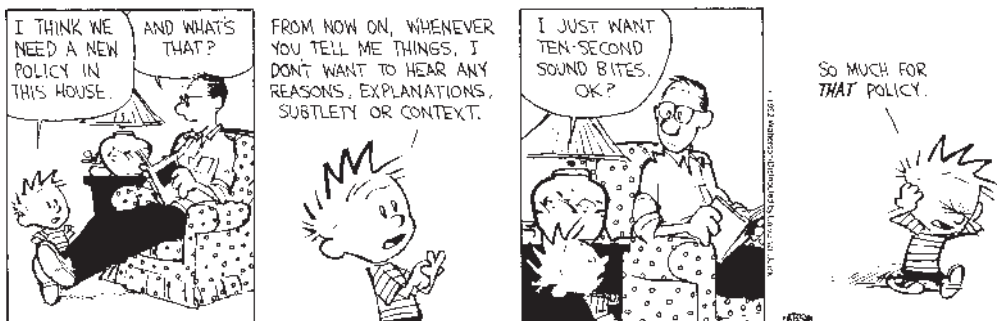
*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


I THINK WE NEED A NEW POLICY IN THIS HOUSE.
AND WHAT'S THAT?
FROM NOW ON, WHENEVER YOU TELL ME THINGS, I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ANY REASONS, EXPLANATIONS, SUBTLETY OR CONTEXT.
I JUST WANT TEN-SECOND SOUND BITES, OK?
SO MUCH FOR THAT POLICY.

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

HERE'S YOUR DINNER, GARFIELD
THE LABEL CAME OFF THE CAN, SO I'M NOT SURE WHAT THIS IS
SOMETIMES THAT'S A BLESSING
GARFIELD
Distributed by Universal Uclick www.facebook.com/garfield
©2012 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
JIM DAVIS 5-1

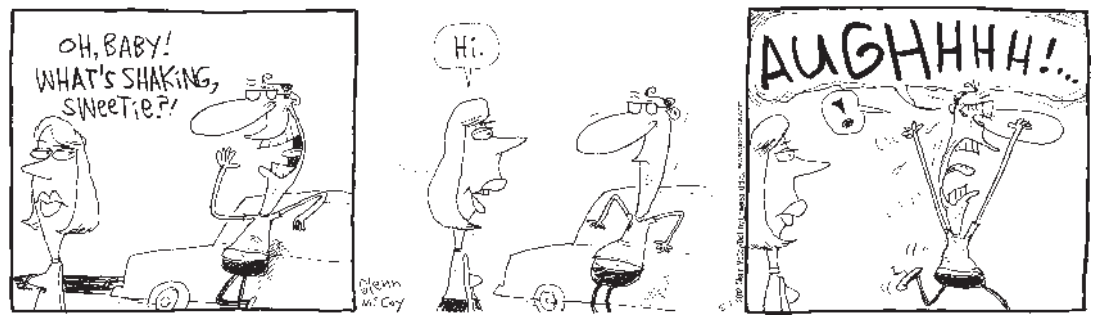
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

YOU GOT A 54% ON A MATH TEST? OH MY!
STOP IT, KATY. I KNOW.
YOU ARE IN SO MUCH TROUBLE.
I KNOW! YOU'RE NOT HELPING!
HEE HEE.
WHY ARE YOU TAKING PLEASURE IN MY MISFORTUNE?
THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION. WHY IS THAT? LITTLE SISTER INSTINCT. MAYBE?

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy




## CROSSWORD

*By Eugene Sheffer*

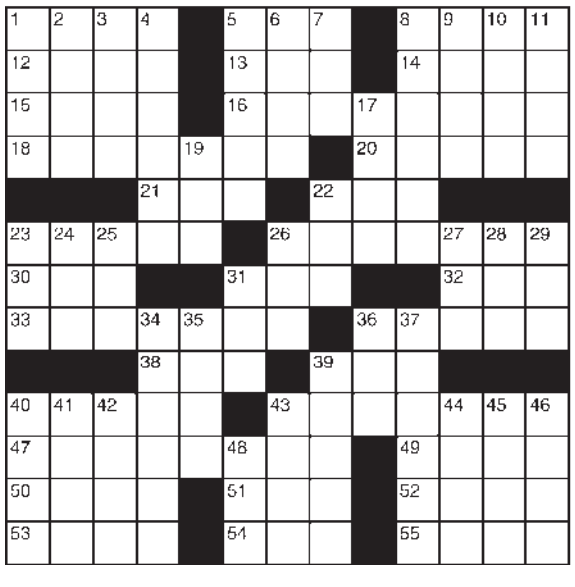
**ACROSS**
1 "Wow!"
5 Sphere
8 Auto pioneer Henry
12 Pinnacle
13 Fish eggs
14 Great Lake
15 Ocean-going vessel
16 CBS crime-solving series
18 Easily angered person
20 Swiss mathematician
21 "Of course"
22 Fellow
23 Harsh
26 Ideological conflict
30 Move like 38-Across
31 Author Umberto
32 Historic period
33 Franks
36 Starsky's partner
38 Kanga's kid
39 Chance
40 Spotless
43 Rarity in Hell?
47 Trouble
49 Jason's ship
50 Teen's facial woe
51 Peculiar
52 Go sightseeing
53 Bellow
54 Golf ball holder
55 Fencing sword

**DOWN**
1 Long cut
2 Reverberate
3 Send forth
4 Gentle breeze
5 Killer whales
6 Crucifix
7 — canto
8 Fruitful
9 Verbal
10 Get up
11 Antelope's playmate
17 Transaction
19 "A mouse!"
22 Cattle call?
23 "Be quiet!"
24 Excessively
25 Suitable
26 IV measures
27 Drench
28 Curved line
29 "Hurray!"
31 Id counterpart
34 Bureau compartment
35 Chaplin's O'Neill
36 "2001" computer
37 Latest news
39 Teeming throng
40 Burn somewhat
41 Crazy
42 Sicilian spouter
43 Relinquish
44 Let fall
45 Chills and fever
46 Bygone times
48 Youngster

Solution time: 21 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| D | R | A | B | ■ | C | U | B | ■ | C | H | O | P |
| E | U | R | O | ■ | O | N | A | ■ | H | A | D | A |
| A | B | E | L | ■ | S | U | R | V | I | V | O | R |
| D | F | S | F | R | T | ■ | S | F | V | F | R | F |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | Y | O | U | R | ■ | T | E | N | ■ | ■ |
| S | U | R | N | A | V | E | S | ■ | S | O | R | T |
| I | K | E | ■ | D | E | B | T | S | ■ | T | A | E |
| D | E | N | T | ■ | S | U | R | M | I | S | E | D |
| ■ | ■ | T | O | E | ■ | T | I | E | R | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| U | N | F | U | R | L | ■ | K | W | O | N | D | O |
| S | U | R | P | R | I | S | E | ■ | N | E | O | N |
| A | L | E | E | ■ | F | O | R | ■ | E | V | I | L |
| F | L | E | E | ■ | E | N | S | ■ | D | E | N | Y |

Yesterday's answer 5-1



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY**: Julie Benz, 40; Wes Anderson, 43; Tim McGraw, 45; Judy Collins, 73.

**Happy Birthday**: Put your best foot forward. Embark on new ventures and participate in activities that interest you. Get involved in the lives of individuals who are much younger or older. The lessons you learn will help you maneuver into an excellent position that has plenty of room for growth and will bring you great satisfaction. Your numbers are 6, 17, 22, 27, 30, 34, 43.

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): Make personal changes that better suit your current situation. A conservative approach to business will help you secure your position. Put pressure on someone who could potentially ruin your plans if a contribution isn't made on time. ✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): Mix business with pleasure. Showing your playful side will help build better relationships and ensure that you get the help you require when you need it. Orchestrate a face-to-face conversation if an important deal begins to teeter. ✪✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Emotions will be difficult to control, posing a personal problem. Listen to complaints and observe the situation before taking steps to rectify the problem. You aren't likely to get more than one chance, making your timing and choices crucial. ✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): Do your best to follow through with your plans. Don't allow anyone to make you feel self-conscious about your capabilities. Rely on experience and the information you have gathered, and you will reach your destination. ✪✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't complain about your job or someone will think you aren't right for the position. You have to protect what you've got, not throw it all away. Hard work, dedication and showing interest will all contribute to a successful future. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You've got all the right moves, so don't hesitate to follow through with your plans. A lack of confidence is the only thing standing in your way. Share your thoughts and you will realize that you have something worthwhile to present. ✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Personal changes will be easier than anticipated if you sign up for a self-help course. Love is on the rise, and talking about your plans with your current partner or taking part in activities conducive to meeting someone new will pay off. ✪✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Concentrate on money matters and professional gains. Letting emotions get in the way of your advancement will lead to regrets in the future. You may have to work with someone you don't trust in order to get what you want. ✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't start something you cannot finish. A problem with relatives or friends will occur if you are too aggressive. Keeping an open mind and letting others voice an opinion will make it easier to get others to accept your ideas. ✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): You can wheel and deal all you want. Someone is likely to make last-minute changes that will upset your plans. Spend more time securing your position by working on projects that don't require the help of others. Success will be your payback. ✪✪✪✪✪

**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): You'll have to put up with interference. Listen to what's being suggested and combine it with what you feel works for you. At the end of the day, accomplishing what you set out to do will be the bottom line. ✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't let anger lead to a mistake you'll regret. Do what you can to reach your goals without being sidetracked by what others want you to do. Someone from your past will offer you an opportunity you cannot refuse. ✪✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are a perfectionist. You recognize quality and strive to do your best.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | | | 4 | 2 | | 8 | 7 | |
| | | | 7 | | 1 | | | 2 |
| | | | | | | | | 9 |
| 2 5 | 6 | | | | 9 | | 4 | 7 |
| | 9 | | 5 | | | | 6 | 3 |
| 7 | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | 2 | | 5 | | | |
| | 5 | 1 | | 3 | 4 | | | 8 |

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
| 5 | 1 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 9 |
| 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 8 | 3 |
| 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 7 | 5 |
| 8 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 2 |
| 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 8 |
| 6 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 7 | 2 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 6 |

Difficulty Level ★ 5/01

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**HUMAN BEEF** Solution: 10 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | D | C | E | O | N | F | E | R | C | S | U | D | G | T |
| G | W | N | N | L | E | O | S | S | E | H | E | N | E | T |
| B | I | O | U | E | Z | P | I | V | E | D | I | N | E | S |
| F | R | N | B | O | I | Z | O | N | N | N | D | L | I | M |
| Y | E | O | G | R | R | L | I | U | O | E | I | M | I | W |
| E | I | C | T | E | C | G | O | S | R | F | M | H | N | S |
| L | G | S | U | H | R | P | A | I | O | E | P | A | C | T |
| S | H | A | E | A | E | E | Z | H | R | Y | I | E | L | T |
| R | S | F | R | P | S | E | E | P | S | L | N | A | A | F |
| A | A | O | P | L | D | N | R | A | O | I | S | R | B | S |
| P | M | E | I | R | I | E | I | G | B | H | D | H | L | M |
| A | R | C | E | S | C | C | N | M | Ⓡ | Ⓘ | Ⓒ | Ⓔ | E | B |
| S | E | D | I | I | U | O | O | I | U | C | H | A | N | I |
| D | G | U | P | B | M | C | A | O | H | C | T | T | D | T |
| E | C | E | E | T | A | R | G | T | K | T | A | S | T | E |

© 2012 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 5/1

Aroma, Beef, Bite, Blend, Boil, Bowl, Broth, Chef, Chili, Chinese, Chop, Cloves, Coat, Combine, Cook, Cube, Cuisine, Cumin, Dish, Dredge, Filet, Fine, Flame, Garlic, Ginger, Grate, Ground, Heat, Mash, Meat, Menu, Mongolian, Onion, Parsley, Peas, Peppers, Pounded, Recipe, Rice, Salt, Sauce, Seasoning, Simmer, Sizzle, Sliced, Soy, Strips, Taste, Tenderized, Thin, Wine

**Yesterday's Answer: Vacuum**

THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 23 of the Successful Series of Books, is available at bookstores everywhere. To order, send $16.95 (includes shipping and handling) to Puzzle Collection, c/o Andrews McMeel Universal, 1130 Walnut Street, Kansas City, MO 64106. Or call toll-free 1-800-642-6480. Make sure to mention code number 9781449400832 when you order.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

## WANTED TO BUY

Seriously looking for used cars Year 2003 & up 4 cylinder. Good condition. We pay cash! Call 287-7676

## FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sandy Beach Homes 3BR, 2BTH beachfront Chalan Kanoa. Security cams, back-up power/water, washer/dryer in unit, AC, solar water heater. Income eligibility req. apply. $695/mo 235-7263. www.sandybeachhomes.net

---

Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipanproperties.com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

---

## FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

---

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

---

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

---

WHATZIT Solution: Pennsylvania

Looking for a way to tell everyone about your business?

You're looking at it!

Saipan Tribune 235-6397

**DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION – SAIPAN**
**has an opening for an**
**Accounting Assistant or Accounting Clerk**

For established small business
Must demonstrate understanding
of accounting controls
Responsible for daily, weekly
and monthly sales reports
and bank and credit card reconciliation
Daily and shift auditing
Responsible for maintaining G/L and
preparing month end P&L
Prepare BGR tax reports
Must demonstrate excellent Word and Excel skills
Experience with Quick Books and
ACCPAC accounting programs

Must demonstrate ability to communicate
effectively in English
Able to adhere to and meet reporting deadlines

Full time and part time employment available
5 years accounting experience
On island references & police clearance required

Applications must be submitted by May 8th.

Fax Resume to 670-321-1668.


Subscribe to the CNMI's
First Daily Newspaper
Call 235-NEWS
Saipan Tribune
Over 100 food stamp vouchers on hold
Businesses slam 'excessive' $500 fire re-inspection, $500 permit fees
Even despots don't live forever
The flagrance of war
More US Catholics take complaints to church court
Campus Life
KagHS JROTC does well in drill competiti
GCA's January forensic winners
Overdrive
Mustang Boss 302
a thrill to drive, but lacks the extras
Life&Style
Davis, Dujardin win lead honors at SAG awards
Mary Tyler Moore honored for lifetime achievement
Pastimes
SUDOKU
Sports
Rollers eyeing two trips to PH in 201
'King of Aces' on island through January
SACR welcomed nine new members in 2011

## CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

*Saipan Tribune's* Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

### CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

*Saipan Tribune* also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

| ADS | (PRINT) | COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|---|---|---|
| • 3-Liner | $15 | $27 |
| • 5-Liner | $24 | $39 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | $24 | $42 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | $36 | $57 |

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

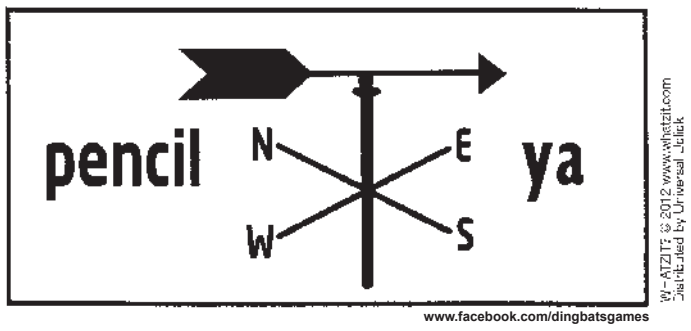
*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.




WHATZIT © 2012 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

# Bynum's triple-double leads Lakers past Nuggets

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—A day before Andrew Bynum produced one of the most eye-popping defensive performances in NBA playoff history, he spoke up to his Lakers teammates about the importance of getting off to a good start in their championship quest.

With an NBA record-tying 10 blocked shots, the 7-foot All-Star center put the Lakers on the good foot—and the Denver Nuggets on their heels.

Kobe Bryant scored 31 points, Bynum posted the Lakers' first playoff triple-double in 21 years, and Los Angeles thoroughly controlled the tempo in a playoff-opening 103-88 victory Sunday.

Despite a few well-chronicled fluctuations in his motivation and discipline this year, the seventh-year pro had perfect focus in Game 1, capping his utter dominance in the paint with his record-tying block of Timofey Mozgov with 3:02 to play. Bynum also had 10 points and 13 rebounds before checking out to an ovation.

"It's the only way really possible for me to get a triple-double—through blocked shots," Bynum said of his first career triple-double. "If I play good D, we'll win games. I think I'm just going to be as aggressively as I can defensively to contest their shots. ... You've got to win Game 1. Statistics are against the teams that lose Game 1, especially on the home court."

Game 2 is Tuesday night.

Just how dominant were Bynum and his tall teammates against the NBA's highest-scoring team? Bynum blocked 11 percent of the Nuggets' 90 shots, and with 15 total blocks, Lakers swatted one of every six Denver shots, separating the Nuggets from any hope of a late rally.

"His timing was impeccable today," Bryant said of Bynum. "He really understood the rhythm of their offensive players. He was just there at the exact moment, either to change or block the shot."

While Bynum had the Lakers' first playoff triple-double since Magic Johnson in the 1991 NBA finals, fellow 7-footer Pau Gasol added 13 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for the playoff-tested Lakers, who never trailed while forcing Denver to play Los Angeles' preferred half-court style.

Bynum blocked eight shots in the first three quarters before surpassing Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's franchise-record nine blocks in the fourth. He eventually equaled the NBA record set by Utah's Mark Eaton on April 26, 1985, and matched by Hall of Famer Hakeem Olajuwon on April 29, 1990.

"We've got to find a way to score before he gets in the paint, because he's impressive," said Danilo Gallinari, who led Denver with 19 points.

For coach Mike Brown, who has mostly enjoyed his first year riding the roller coaster of Bynum's emotions and motivation, the game showed why these Lakers could go deep into June.

"He can control a game without shooting a single shot," Brown said. "He has 10 blocks, but I'd be curious to know how many (shots) he changed. He changed a gazillion shots in the paint, and that's what Denver is very good at. He was phenomenal tonight, and if he continues to play like he did, being the type of monster he was tonight patrolling that paint, we'll be playing a long time."

But Denver coach George Karl got a jump start on lobbying the officials for help against Bynum in Game 2.

"(Bynum) was playing a nice illegal defense," Karl said. "He was zoned up good. I think we got one illegal defense (call against Los Angeles). I saw about 30 of them. ... The shot-blocker probably beat us."

The sixth-seeded Nuggets won eight of 10 to reach the postseason, but most of their fears about this playoff matchup were realized. Andre Miller had 12 points, eight rebounds and seven assists while helping out Ty Lawson, Denver's leading scorer, who managed just seven points while failing to make a shot in the first three quarters for the NBA's second-youngest playoff roster.

Ramon Sessions had 14 points and five assists in his first career playoff game for the third-seeded Lakers, who lost last year's postseason opener to New Orleans.

Devin Ebanks even scored 12 points in the first half while starting his first career playoff game in place of suspended Metta World Peace. The Lakers didn't miss their defensive stopper while forcing most of Denver's key contributors into poor games.

"I don't think we were intimidated," Gallinari said. "They played their game plan better than we played our game plan. ... This first game, we were overthinking too much. One of the best things we do is just be aggressive and don't think too much."

Bryant scored 23 points in the second half to open the 15th playoff campaign of his 16-year career. The third-leading scorer in NBA playoff history hadn't played in a week, sitting out the Lakers' last game alongside Gasol and Bynum to keep his high-mileage legs fresh.

Sessions and Ebanks both made their playoff debuts, while Brown coached the Lakers in their first playoff game at Staples Center, which opened in 1999, without Phil Jackson commanding their bench from his oversized chair.

AP

Los Angeles Lakers center Andrew Bynum, right, blocks a shot by Denver Nuggets point guard Ty Lawson during the first half of an NBA first-round playoff basketball game, Sunday, April 29, 2012, in Los Angeles.

## NBA *schedule probably not to blame for Rose injury*

The NBA's compressed schedule, with 66 games in four months followed by one day off before the playoffs, was tough on everyone.

Did it cause more injuries?

"Yeah, probably," Chicago's Joakim Noah said. "Probably."

What about the torn ACLs that ended the season for Derrick Rose and Iman Shumpert on Saturday?

Unlikely, said a surgeon.

"There is no evidence that wear and tear, or that kind of issue, playing too much, really has any correlation with ACL injuries in any sport that we've ever studied," Dr. David Altchek from the Hospital for Special Surgery in New York said Sunday.

Rose, last season's MVP, was hurt in the final minutes of Chicago's Game 1 victory over Philadelphia, and the Knicks' Shumpert went down a short while later. The blame game started soon after, with many pointing the finger at the hectic post-lockout schedule.

Boston center Jermaine O'Neal, whose season ended early after wrist surgery, wrote on his Twitter page that it was a "clear sign" of fatigued bodies from a condensed season, writing "2 torn acl injuries to key players!"

But Altchek argues that too much playing could actually make a player less susceptible to the injuries that Rose and Shumpert sustained, because they might lack the type of explosiveness it takes to blow out a knee ligament.

"In fact, I think if you're tired, you're a lot less likely to tear your ACL because you're not going to be as explosive," said Altchek, who has operated on players such as Josh Howard, David West and Purdue's Robbie Hummel, and been a consultant for the NBA.

NBA players and owners settled on a 66-game schedule starting on Christmas when they settled the lockout during Thanksgiving weekend. Though perhaps ambitious, both sides saw it as a way to make back as much lost revenue as possible.

Spokesman Tim Frank said that with respect to the season, the league had "ongoing discussions with team doctors and athletic trainers about best practices and planning for injuries."

The revised schedule amounted to about two extra games a month for teams, from 14 to 16. Though the league said the injury rate was about the same as in a normal 82-game season, players say they felt a difference.

"This has been a compressed season, a lot more games, a lot less practice time, a lot less recovery time," Knicks guard Baron Davis said. "You can definitely look at the season and just look at the schedule and say that guys really never got the ample amount of time to rest and heal their bones because you're fighting for playoff position. It's game after game after game. So, you know, it's tough. But there's injuries, there's freak injuries in basketball that's always happening."

They've knocked out players such as Dwight Howard, Al Horford, Andrew Bogut, Jeremy Lin and Stephen Curry, but most were injuries that could come from excessive usage, such as sprains and strains.

Alchek said ACL tears, far more common in female athletes, are scary injuries in that there's little explanation for how to prevent them. He said the non-contact version that both Rose and Shumpert sustained are often more prevalent in the strongest, healthiest athletes.

Contact ACL tears, Altchek said, are the kind that can happen to a football player hit on the side of the knee. But Rose was jumping to stop when he was injured, and Shumpert was trying to maneuver with a behind-the-back dribble when he crumbled to the court.

Both players battled injuries during the season, with Rose missing 27 games for groin, back, toe, foot and ankle problems. There was a mixture of anger and sympathy around the NBA when the popular reigning MVP went down, possibly taking the Bulls' title hopes with him.

### Clippers 99, Grizzlies 98

In Memphis, Tennessee, Chris Paul hit a pair of free throws with 23.7 seconds left as the Los Angeles Clippers rallied from 27 down to beat Memphis in the opening game of their Western Conference series.

Rudy Gay missed a 15-footer with 0.9 seconds left after the Grizzlies squandered a lead they held for the first 47 minutes.

The Clippers lost Caron Butler to a broken left hand. But Nick Young scored 19 points off the bench, including three 3-pointers in the midst of the Clippers' 26-1 run. Paul finished with 14 points, and Blake Griffin had 17. Butler had 12 before leaving the game.

Gay finished with 19 for Memphis. Mike Conley and O.J. Mayo had 17, and Marc Gasol had 14.

Game 2 is Wednesday.

### Hawks 83, Celtics 74

In Atlanta, Josh Smith scored 22 points and grabbed 18 rebounds to lead Atlanta over Boston in Game 1 of the Eastern Conference playoffs, the final minute turning ugly when Celtics star Rajon Rondo was ejected for bumping an official.

The Hawks, who led by as many as 19 in the first half, were clinging to a four-point lead when Rondo lost his cool with 41 seconds remaining—and may have cost himself a chance to play Game 2 Tuesday night.

Brandon Bass was called for a foul on Smith tussling for a loose ball. Rondo screamed at official Marc Davis, who quickly called a technical. Rondo then bumped Davis with his chest and was tossed out. A suspension could be coming, too.

Rondo scored 20 points and dished out 11 assists, but none of it mattered when he lost his cool. Kevin Garnett bounced back from a miserable start to put up 20 points and 11 rebounds. Smith carried the Hawks on a night when Joe Johnson managed just 11 points on 3-of-15 shooting.

### Spurs 106, Jazz 91

In San Antonio, Tony Parker scored 28 points as San Antonio beat Utah to win its playoff opener for the first time in four years.

Tim Duncan added 17 points and 11 rebounds, helping the Spurs dodge another early playoff letdown. Despite boasting the No. 1 seed again, San Antonio hadn't won a Game 1 in its last six postseason series—including the one that began a shocking first-round ouster last year.

Paul Millsap led Utah with 20 points. The Jazz hung close until the third, when the NBA's top 3-point shooting team began burying Utah with three in a two-minute burst to finish the quarter.

The Spurs have won 11 in a row.

Game 2 is Wednesday in San Antonio.

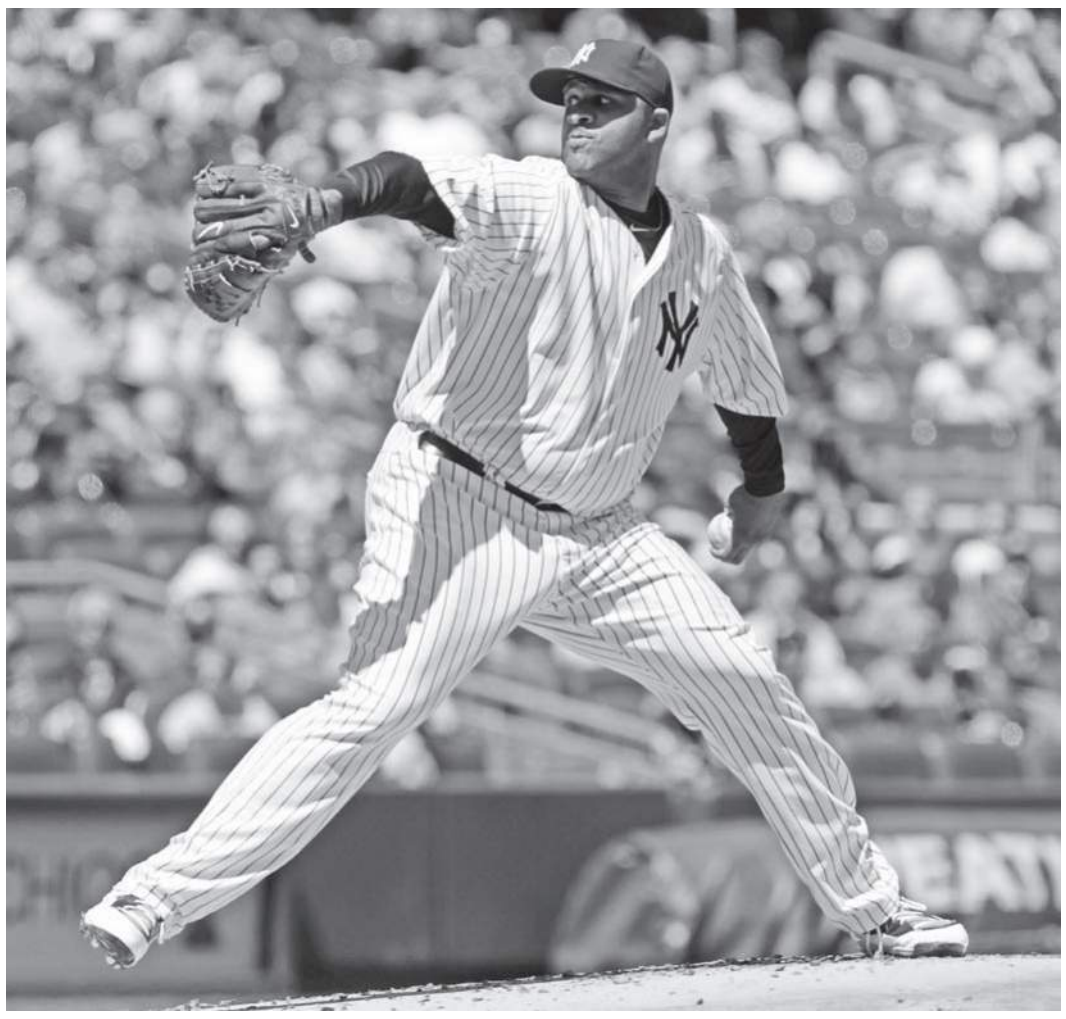
# Sabathia pitches 8 strong for Yankees

**NEW YORK** (AP)—CC Sabathia steadied New York's rocky rotation with eight sharp innings, Alex Rodriguez passed Willie Mays for eighth on the career RBIs list and the Yankees beat the Detroit Tigers 6-2 on Sunday despite leaving 14 men on base in the first six innings.

Rodriguez drove in two runs without hitting the ball out of the infield, leaving him with 1,904 RBIs. He singled on a dribbler down the third-base line with the bases loaded in the second, the Yankees' only hit in six plate appearances with three men on. Chris Stewart slid under catcher Gerald Laird's tag on Rodriguez's grounder to shortstop in the seventh.

Curtis Granderson walked to force in the game's first run in the second, one of a career-high seven walks by Detroit starter Max Scherzer (1-3).

The Yankees walked nine times and left 15 on base overall, but won the three-game series. Sabathia (3-0) allowed two runs and four hits.



AP

New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia pitches during the second inning of a baseball game against the Detroit Tigers at Yankee Stadium in New York, Sunday, April 29, 2012.

### Rays 5, Rangers 2

In Arlington, Texas, David Price beat Texas for the first time in 10 career starts as Tampa Bay became the first team to win a series against the Rangers this season.

Ben Zobrist had three hits and an RBI and Price earned his fourth victory in five starts. Tampa Bay touched up Derek Holland (2-2) for five extra-base hits in a nine-hit outburst.

Price (4-1) struck out six and walked one in 6 1-3 innings. He gave up two runs and six hits.

Fernando Rodney loaded the bases with two outs in the ninth, then jammed Ian Kinsler on a soft liner back to the mound for his seventh save.

### Indians 4, Angels 0

In Cleveland, Derek Lowe pitched three-hit ball into the eighth inning as Cleveland scored three runs on Los Angeles errors.

Lowe (4-1) retired 12 batters on ground balls, including Albert Pujols three times. Pujols also struck out against Chris Perez, extending his career-long homerless streak to 117 at-bats.

Ervin Santana (0-5), in his first start against Cleveland since throwing a no-hitter at Progressive Field last July 27, allowed two unearned runs over seven innings. The runs scored when nine-time Gold Glove outfielder Torii Hunter lost a routine two-out fly ball in the sun for an error in the fifth.

### White Sox 4, Red Sox 1

In Chicago, Gavin Floyd carried a no-hitter into the seventh inning and Adam Dunn hit a two-run homer as Chicago snapped a five-game losing streak.

Floyd (2-3) struck out nine in 6 2-3 innings, yielding one run and three hits. He improved to 7-0 with a 3.21 ERA in nine career appearances against Boston.

Dustin Pedroia singled with one out in the seventh for Boston's first hit of the game. Cody Ross had an RBI single for the Red Sox, who had won six straight.

### Orioles 5, Athletics 2

In Baltimore, Wilson Betemit hit a three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth inning after Matt Wieters doubled in two runs, giving Baltimore an unlikely victory.

Oakland starter Bartolo Colon took a four-hit shutout into the ninth without allowing a runner past second base.

After J.J. Hardy led off with an infield hit and Nick Markakis struck out, Adam Jones hit a chopper down the third-base line that Colon collected before throwing wildly to first. The single and error put runners at second and third and ended Colon's afternoon.

Grant Balfour (0-1) entered and promptly gave up a double to left by Wieters that tied it. After Chris Davis received an intentional walk, Betemit hit a liner to right-center that bounced off the top of the wall—a home run, according to the ground rules at Camden Yards.

### Twins 7, Royals 4

In Minneapolis, Josh Willingham had three hits as Minnesota snapped a six-game losing streak.

Jason Marquis (2-0) threw six strong innings for Minnesota, which also got three hits and a pair of RBIs from Danny Valencia.

Kansas City starter Bruce Chen (0-3) had his worst outing of the season, giving up six runs and six hits in 2 2-3 innings. It was Chen's shortest outing since lasting 3 1-3 innings on July 9, 2010.

### Blue Jays 7, Mariners 2

In Toronto, Edwin Encarnacion hit his third home run in three games for Toronto, and Henderson Alvarez won for the first time since August.

Jeff Mathis added a two-run homer as the Blue Jays broke open a close game with a five-run eighth inning.

Chone Figgins and Miguel Olivo homered for the Mariners, who lost their second straight.

Alvarez (1-2) allowed one run and six hits in six-plus innings to win for the second time in 15 major league starts. Alvarez, whose only other victory came at Baltimore last Aug. 31, walked a career-high three and struck out one.

### Dodgers 2, Nationals 0

In Los Angeles, Chris Capuano struck out nine batters while combining with two relievers on a four-hitter and James Loney drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single as the Los Angeles Dodgers completed a three-game sweep of the Washington Nationals.

Capuano (3-0) allowed three hits and two walks in 6 2-3 innings, sending the Nationals to their fourth straight loss after they entered the series with an National League-best 14-5 record.

Kenley Jansen followed Josh Lindblom out of the bullpen and pitched a hitless ninth for his second save after starting out with six straight balls and getting a visit from pitching coach Rick Honeycutt. Jansen then struck out his next two batters and fanned Jesus Flores with runners at first and second to end it.

### Cubs 5, Phillies 1

In Philadelphia, Matt Garza pitched one-hit ball for seven shutout innings and struck out 10 batters as Chicago beat Philadelphia.

Garza (2-1) gave up a pop-fly single to Jimmy Rollins leading off the first and nothing more. The right-hander retired 20 of the next 21 batters, with Juan Pierre's seventh-inning walk accounting for the only other baserunner.

### Brewers 3, Cardinals 2

In St. Louis, Zack Greinke worked six strong innings and Jonathan Lucroy's two-run double capped a three-run sixth as Milwaukee beat St. Louis to avoid a three-game sweep.

Greinke (3-1) allowed a run and seven hits to help stop the Brewers' six-game road losing streak. He's 2-1 with a 2.11 ERA in four career games in St. Louis.

Jaime Garcia (2-1) fell to 17-10 at home with a 2.38 ERA.

### Braves 4, Pirates 3

In Atlanta, Tim Hudson labored through five tough innings to win in his return from back surgery and Atlanta held on in the ninth to beat Pittsburgh.

Hudson (1-0) pitched in the majors for the first time since his operation last November to repair a herniated disc. The right-hander threw 96 pitches while giving up two runs on six hits and two walks. He allowed at least one baserunner in every inning.

The Pirates stranded 10 runners, including eight against Hudson. Craig Kimbrel gave up one run in the ninth before earning his eighth save.

### Diamondbacks 8, Marlins 4

In Miami, Wade Miley held Miami hitless until the sixth inning and Jason Kubel drove in three runs for Arizona.

Miley (3-0) gave up one hit and an unearned run in 6 1-3 innings to lower his ERA to 1.29. He also singled and scored the game's first run.

The retractable roof over the Marlins' new ballpark averted a rainout, because showers fell all day. But inside, boos rained down from the crowd of 34,918 during Arizona's five-run sixth.

The Marlins trailed 8-0 before they managed their first hit in the sixth, a leadoff double by John Buck. Miami has lost seven of eight.

### Mets 6, Rockies 5, 11 innings

In Denver, Ike Davis singled in the go-ahead run in the 11th inning as New York overcame two tying homers allowed by its bullpen to beat Colorado.

Johan Santana, looking for his first win since September 2010, left with a 4-0 lead after six innings but left-hander Tim Byrdak gave up pinch-hitter Todd Helton's grand slam in the eighth. Kirk Nieuwenhuis put the Mets ahead again with an RBI double in the 10th before Frank Francisco (1-1) served up Carlos Gonzalez's solo homer in the bottom half.

### Giants 4, Padres 1

In San Francisco, Pablo Sandoval homered to back Madison Bumgarner's fourth straight victory as San Francisco denied San Diego its first series win of the season.

Joaquin Arias added a two-run triple in the sixth inning to turn a one-run lead into 4-1.

Bumgarner (4-1) struck out a season-best six in 7 2-3 innings for his team-leading fourth victory. The 22-year-old left-hander has held opponents to two or fewer runs in his last nine starts at AT&T Park.

### Reds 6, Astros 5

In Cincinnati, Jay Bruce's fourth home run in four games, a tiebreaking shot in the eighth inning, lifted Cincinnati to a comeback win over Houston.

Bruce hit the first pitch from reliever Fernando Rodriguez (0-3) into the right-field seats for his seventh homer of the season. Bruce has hit home runs in a career-high four consecutive games, one short of tying Cincinnati's club record.

Joey Votto also homered for the Reds, his second of the year. Logan Ondrusek (1-0) pitched a perfect eighth and Sean Marshall earned his fifth save in six tries.

# Jason Dufner takes first PGA Tour win in New Orleans

**AVONDALE, La.** (AP)—A first-time PGA Tour winner one weekend, a married man the next.

The spring of 2012 will go down as a memorable time in Jason Dufner's life.

Although it took pair of playoff holes, Dufner finally proved he could hold it together and make a mid-tournament lead stand up, making a birdie on his second extra trip down the par-5 18th hole at the TPC Louisiana to win the Zurich Classic in a playoff with Ernie Els.

"It's always really tough playing on Sundays whether you're in the lead or middle of the pack, and today I was fighting, trying to win an event, and I think I showed myself a good bit out there," said the 35-year-old Dufner, whose wedding is next weekend. "Ernie made a great run at me and it felt like with five or six holes (to go) we were probably going to be battling for the win."

Dufner, whose average score at the cut this season ranks second on the Tour, finished atop the leader board for the first time in 164 career PGA Tour starts.

Now if he can only figure out his honeymoon plans.

"The honeymoon is going to be at The Players Championship," Dufner joked about the event in two weeks at TPC Sawgrass. "They got an island green."

Dufner's fiancée, Amanda Boyd, wasn't about to complain. Watching from behind the 18th green, she was tearful as Dufner finally made the clutch shots he needed to finish on top.

"It's awesome. He's been so close so many times. I don't feel like it's real," Boyd said. "It will be a good wedding."

Dufner said he was more nervous about his final putt of less than 2 feet than about his impending marriage.

"There's a been a good bit of pressure," Dufner said. "People talking about, `Why aren't you winning? Why can't you close the deal? ... Friends, family, media, even people in my inner circle. And not in a negative way, but when you're leading tournaments going into weekends and you're finishing 24th, there's going to be some questions."

The win should also stamp out some of the bad memories haunting Dufner since the Masters, when he shared the lead after two rounds but faded to 24th.

Dufner lost playoffs last year to Mark Wilson in the Phoenix Open and Keegan Bradley in the PGA Championship for two of his three career runner-up finishes. He had held five previous leads through two rounds, including twice this year.

## EAGLES

*From Page 28*

Pamintuan fouled Salas in GCA's next possession and the latter canned both charities to give them a 66-65 advantage with 1:02 remaining.

With under a minute to go, the Knights were called for a technical foul, but fortunately for them GCA fired blanks from the 15-foot line to keep it a one-point game.

But with 19 seconds to go, Salas was fouled anew and swooshed both free throws to make it a 68-65 count.

Mt. Carmel quickly countered, running a play for Reynald Cabaltica who was fouled and made 2-for-2 from the line to trim GCA's lead to 68-67.

Karlo De Leon was then fouled in the ensuring GCA possession and went 1-for-2 to give them a two-point cushion with 15 seconds left.

One more defensive stop separated GCA from a miraculous comeback and that precious three-peat, but Mt. Carmel got its chance to tie the game when Aydan Gagaring was fouled and was given two free throws that could tie the game with 3.9 seconds left in the game.

Gagaring, however, split his free throws and Mt. Carmel was forced to foul Salas with 1.4 seconds remaining to stop the time.

With pressure mounting and obviously tired from spearheading GCA's furious comeback, Salas muffed both free throws.

Fortunately for GCA, the Knights only had time to collect the rebound and fire a feeble attempt toward their basket as time expired.

Acting coach Genesis Jo Prieto credited his players for not giving up in the championship game despite trailing what seemed like an insurmountable deficit entering the final canto.

"We played our hearts out really. We were down by 17 at beginning of the fourth quarter but the players did not give up, they really wanted to get it and the Lord granted our prayers. Every shot, every free throw was really because of Him. We were able to catch up, make important free throws, and get a lot of stops, defensively. In behalf of coach Ed Salas, we would like to thank all the parents, all the supporters, teachers, students, everyone that made it all a great championship game," he said.

It was a heartbreaking loss for Mt. Carmel, which led practically the entire game before collapsing at the end.

The Knights got out to a quick start and took a 19-11 spread after the first quarter. That only grew to a commanding 37-20 advantage at the break before Mt. Carmel appeared to have it all sewn up with a 53-36 advantage entering what most basketball aficionados would think as "garbage time."

Aside from the 25 clutch points from Salas, GCA also got 11 apiece from De Leon and James Libut.

Cabaltica, meanwhile, scored 20 points in the sorry loss with Igitol and Saludes supporting him with 18 and 12, respectively.

**GCA 69 –** A. Salas 26, De Leon 11, Libut 11, Jones 7, Reyes 7, J. Salas 5, Lee 2.

**MCS 68 –** Cabaltica 20, Igitol 18, Saludes 12, Montes 6, Taguchi 4, Evangelista 2, Kim 2, Gagarin 2, Kautz 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 11-19, 20-37, 36-53, 69-68.

## RED

*From Page 28*

IT&E Fielders (3-5), 16-6, and the DPS Dare Program-Leep Enforcers (3-5) pummeled the Kagman Lions (0-7), 19-1, in five innings.

Natibu Sports Association Talaabwogh Falcons are also right in the mix in the Junior Division with its win-loss slate of 3-4

Meanwhile, in Saturday's Senior Division tripleheader, the still undefeated Docomo Pacific-Ol'Aces (10-0) triumphed over the Rep. Antonio Sablan-Eliceo D. Cabrera-Hunters (6-5), 9-5; the IT&E-Fielders (8-3) blew out the DPS Dare Program-Enforcers (2-7), 19-4; and Juan Santiago's Jets II (8-3) bested sister team Saipan Shipping Company Jets I (2-9), 17-14.

Natibu Talaabwogh Falcons (6-3), meanwhile, is currently in fourth place ahead of fifth seeded Marianas Cable Vision-Rep. Ramon S. Basa-Frederick P. DL Guerrero-Kagman Lions (3-6) and the winless D-9ers (0-7).

### JUNIOR DIVISION
### Red Sox 11, Ol'Aces 8

The Red Sox tallied six runs in the first inning off four hits, which included a trio of RBI singles by Jerald Cabrera, Roke Tenorio, and Nathan Camacho, but Ol'Aces roared back with four hits of their own in the second to briefly pull within a run.

The Red Sox, however, added two more runs off wild pitches in the bottom of the inning to shift the count to 8-5.

Ol'Aces mustered a run in the top of the third off an error, but were held scoreless through the next three frames.

The Red Sox, on the other hand, produced two runs in the fourth inning from an error and an RBI base smash by M.J. Sakisat that drove home Camacho.

Red Sox's Jobe Reyes then singled in Cabrera in the sixth inning and the group contained Ol'Aces to just two runs in the final stand.

Red Sox's Cabrera swung 3-for-4 with an RBI and three runs. Both teams went through three pitchers.

### Jets 16, Fielders 6

Jets pitcher Ben Maratita held it down on the mound for six strong innings and gave up just two runs off seven hits with three walks and four strikeouts.

At the plate his teammates managed an early 3-0 lead in the first inning off two hits and some errors. Maratita bagged an RBI single.

Fielders' Jerry Kintol made it around in the bottom of the third, but the Jets added four runs in the fourth off three hits as Devyn Flores ripped a two-RBI base knock.

The Fielders moved around its final run in the fifth and the count shifted to 9-2 after six innings as the Jets put up two runs off an error and a wild pitch.

The Jets finished strong with seven runs in the seventh off five hits as Greg Sablan, Flores, and Franco Nakamura all nabbed RBIs.

Maratita handed the ball to Flores to get the last three outs and he managed to get it done, despite a late four-run surge by the Fielders.

Jets' Nakamura batted 3-for-4 with two triples, an RBI, three runs, and a base on balls. Fielders' Kainoa Wanket went 3-for-3 with two runs and a base on ball.

### Enforcers 19, Lions 1

Enforcers pitcher Cedric Camacho held the Lions to just one run off four hits and four walks with five strikeouts through four innings.

Offensively, 11 out of the Enforcers' dozen-man roster all came away with hits during the game where the bulk of the damage occurred in the middle innings.

Enforcers' Camacho broke the ice himself in the first inning and his teammates added five more runs in the second off four hits and an RBI poke by Franklin Lizama.

The Lions scored its lone run in the bottom frame from an RBI single by Perry Celis, but the Enforcers trudged ahead, 11-1, in the third inning off four hits and some errors.

They never looked back and piled on six more runs in the fourth off another eight hits and added two more for good measure in the top of the fifth inning from a big smash by Darrion Jones.

Robbie Solis bagged an RBI single, Camacho busted an RBI double, and Caleb Takao went around on a two-RBI base smash in the fourth inning.

Enforcers' Camacho batted 3-for-3 with an RBI, three runs, two stolen bases, and two base on balls.

### SENIOR DIVISION
### Ol'Aces 9, Hunters 5

Ol'Aces pulled in front, 3-2, in the second inning with an RBI single by Tiger Yatsui that scored Lancaster Secharmidal then followed it up with a triple by Paul Bowie.

The Hunters came back and tied it briefly in the third off an error and took the lead, 5-3, in the fourth thanks to a pass ball and a fielder's choice.

Ol'Aces did not answer in the bottom frame, but sent A.J. Lizama to the mound in relief for Frankie Camacho to start the fifth inning.

Lizama pulled the plug on the Hunters offense and his teammates mustered a clutch six-run rally in the fifth for the win.

Some early errors set up an RBI single by Ken Taguchi and a two-RBI base rip by Lizama.

Lizama held strong on the mound and secured the save. He gave up zero hits with seven strikeouts through the last three frames.

Ol'Aces' Jun Rabauliman batted 3-for-4 with a run and a stolen base.

### Fielders 19, Enforcers 4

Enforcers lost the handle off a 3-1 lead from the first inning after a trio of hits by the Fielders in the second inning. Gayvan Uchau and Joe Kilelelman bagged RBI singles.

Fielders pitcher Cody Kaipat settled down on the mound after the early hiccup and shut down the Enforcers in the next four frames.

The Fielders went on to double them up, 6-3, in the third inning with a triple by Ian Rogolifoi and an RBI base rip by Khobby Kaipat.

Fielders' Poland Masaharu sprinted around for an inside-the-park homer that started off the fifth inning. Four other runs came home off errors, an RBI walk, and a two-RBI smash by Cody Kaipat.

The Fielders piled on eight more runs in the sixth off six hits and some untimely walks. Khobby Kaipat and Jared Lizama bagged RBI singles, Davin Ada cranked a two-RBI triple, and Cody Kaipat belted a two-RBI base rip. The Enforcers responded with only one run in its final stand.

Winning pitcher Cody Kaipat gave up one earned run off zero hits, six walks, and a bean ball with seven strikeouts through 5 2/3 innings.

Fielders' Masaharu batted 3-for-3 with an RBI, four runs, a stolen base, and two base on balls. Cody Kaipat went 2-for-4 with four RBIs and a run.

### Jets II 17, Jets I 14

Jets I led it, 6-2, after three innings and remained at the helm, 10-9, after the fourth inning.

Jets I worked around its first two runs in the opening frame from a sacrifice fly and an RBI single by Jordan Taitano.

Jets II's Jeffrey Lizama answered with an RBI double in the bottom frame and his teammate Kyloe Hocog drew a walk and stole home in the second to knot the match at 2-all.

But Jets I quickly loaded the bases in the third and brought in four runs off an error, an RBI walk, and a two-RBI base rip by Mathew Maeda.

They then added four more runs in the fourth off three hits and some errors before Jets II finally got things going in the bottom frame.

Jets II came back to within a run primarily with patience at the plate. They drew seven walks and only came away with two hits in the uprising.

Jets I went ahead, 14-10, after the fifth as its rival also struggled to find the strike zone. However, the latter somehow managed to put up seven runs to close the sixth and held on for the win.

Jets II delivered six hits in the clutch including a two-RBI single by Ray Tenorio, an RBI base hit by Jesus Santos, and a three-run inside-the-parker by Jonathan Villagomez.

Jets I was stood up in both the sixth and seventh frames by Jets II closer Jeffrey Lizama. He was the fourth pitcher they sent to the hump.

## UFO

*From Page 28*

are MDX/Armatech, Bayani/Triple J, Samahang Laguna, UPAA, Boholano, Batangas Blades/Fong's Bakery, and Visminda/Island Rent A Car.

MDC/Civic Boys, Bayani/Mobil, MIFICPA/Proa, and MAFEA/Konflikt, meanwhile, will be squaring off in the 21-39 division.

The 15-20 age group will have MDX/Mariana Resort & Spa, SIP, Bayani/DYS Jr. National A, Visminda/AON Jr. National B, MIFICPA Gene's Barber, and Power/Hi Five, while suiting up for the 14-and-under division are players from MDX/Armatech, SMF, Boholano/Wings, and San Vicente.

Ali'i Konflikt is the defending champion in the 21-39 division after it ambushed a previously undefeated Proa team bannered by CNMI national players in the one-game finals, 94-79, last year.

In the 40-and-above division, MDX/Armatech returns to the fold as reigning champion. It beat 2010 champion Cabalen/Wings Travel, 84-79, in the finals last year. Meanwhile, in the 15 to 20 division, the Jets defeated Filcag in the finals, 86-80, in the age group's first year.

This year's UFO games will be played every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. For more information, contact Bong Malasarte at 287-5525, Manalili at 483-4337, Boy Ching at 287-6046, or Abner Venus at 888-7764.

## CNMI

*From Page 28*

the 16th minute when Dakota Hall was given a free kick just in front of the center line.

Ramsey said the odds were too great to attempt a goal kick from that distance and most teams would choose to pass the ball from that position.

However, the team official said Hall made the most picture-perfect kick he's ever seen in a U14 game that sailed effortlessly over the goalie's head and into the left upper corner of the goal, tying the game.

The CNMI added their second goal seven minutes later on a pass from Hall to Jordan Butcher-Wade who dribbled and shot up the middle for the go-ahead point.

Leading at halftime 2-1, the CNMI appeared to have regained its confidence and energy and only needed to hold Mongolia for 30 minutes.

But at the 23rd minute in the second half, Mongolia tied the score on a corner kick. The game moved up and down the field for the next six minutes and with only seconds to go, Mongolia was awarded a penalty kick in the goalie box.

CNMI goalie Julian Pellegrino braced himself for the shot the final shot that would make the difference in a win or a loss.

Ramsey said Mongolia's shot was deflected off the crossbar missing the goal just as the final whistle blew. It was a tense battle to the very end with a tie score of 2-2.

In the game against North Korea, Ramsey said the CNMI seemed to be still smarting from its 0-18 pasting in the hands of Asia Football Confederation powerhouse Japan the day before.

"Immediately we could see that they were nearly as strong as our Japanese rivals yesterday. I think we fell back into a defensive posture and were never able to mount an offense. The final score was DPR (Democratic People's Republic of ) Korea 9, CNMI 0," he said.

In all, the CNMI won two matches in the football festival (Chinese-Taipei and Macau), while drawing against host China and Mongolia in clearly its best showing in the annual event. It did lose four matches against archrival Guam and AFC powerhouses South Korea, North Korea, and Japan.

The CNMI U14 National Football Team was made up of Hall, Butcher-Wade, William Hinson II, Joel Fruit, and Kennedy Izuka. Completing the team are Carlson Cruzat, Alan Hinson, Christopher Aninzo, Daniel and John Auther, Julian Pellegrino, Won-Young Kim, Jeremie Tanghal, Gideon Borja, John Masga, Louie Calayag, Emmanuel Aniana, Ryu Tanzawa, Moris Villanueva, Joshua Galarion, James Ermitanio, and Wataru Takima. Kiyoshi Sekiguchi coached the team.

Last Sunday night, the team took part in the closing ceremonies where each team presented some short entertainment that they had to prepare themselves.

# COPSSA Girls Varsity Basketball Finals

PHOTOS By
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan International School's Amy Hudkins pulls up for a jumper against Grace Christian Academy defenders.

Saipan International School supporters cheer for their team.

Grace Christian Academy's cheering squad performs a drill during a timeout.

Grace Christian Academy's Jazmin Rayphand goes up for a shot against Saipan International School's Seoung Hyun Lee during their title game in the girls varsity division of the Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Basketball League last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

A Grace Christian Academy player, left, is blocked by Saipan International School's Zoe Jewell.

A Grace Christian Academy player pulls up for a short jumper.

Grace Christian Academy's Kelsey Mueller blocks Saipan International School's Seoung Hyun Lee.

Grace Christian Academy and Saipan International School players battle for the loose ball.

Saipan International School's Zoe Jewell, left, and Grace Christian Academy's Zena Demapan fight for the rebound.

Saipan International School's Phalain Frink goes for a fadeway shot.

Saipan Tribune
Sports

# Eagles complete historic three-peat

## GCA rallies from 18 points down in 4th

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Grace Christian Academy made the mother of all comebacks, rallying from as much as an 18-point deficit in the fourth quarter to shock Mt. Carmel School, 69-68, in the one-game championship of the 2012 Coalition of Private Schools Sports Association Basketball League last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

Whippet-quick guard Angelo Salas almost single-handedly brought the Eagles back from the grave, scoring 15 points in the payoff period that wasn't decided until the final buzzer sounded.

GCA was down, 59-41, with half a quarter to go when it began its monumental comeback. A dizzying 21-4 run, capped by a steal and a layup by Salas, made it 63-62 in favor of the Knights with 2:03 remaining in the match.

The Eagles' rally was fueled by their defense, as Mt. Carmel fell into a stupor and committed all kinds of turnovers that led to easy—sometimes unmolested—layups by GCA players.

Another turnover by the Knights led to Salas getting fouled and trooping to the free throw line to give the Eagles its first taste of the lead in a while.

However, the spitfire of a guard misfired on both free throws. He would atone for those missed gift shots later when he completed another drive to give GCA an improbable 64-63 advantage with 1:30 left in the title game.

The Knights would retake the lead on a nifty inbound pass that led to a layup, but Aaron

See **EAGLES** on **Page 26**

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Grace Christian Academy's Angelo Salas goes for a layup against Mt. Carmel School defenders during their title game in the COPSSA boys varsity caging last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium of the TSL Sports Complex.

## UFO eyes May 12 start of cage league

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The United Filipino Organization will kick off its 2012 UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League on May 12 at the newly renovated Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

UFO president Bong Malasarte said they were forced to postpone the start of the league, which originally was set to start last Sunday, April 29, to give participating teams more time to complete their line-ups as well as await delivery of their uniforms.

So far, Malasarte said 21 teams have signed up for the competition—seven in the 40-and-over division, four on the 21-39 division, six in the 15-20 division, and four in the 14-and-under age group.

Expected to see action in the 40-and-over age group

See **UFO** on **Page 26**

### JUNIOR DIVISION

## Red Sox upsets Ol'Aces, 11-8

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Bank of Saipan Red Sox (6-2) shocked top-ranked Hawaiya Technologies, Inc. Ol'Aces (7-1), 11-8, in Sunday's Saipan Little League Baseball Junior Division matchup at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Also on Sunday, the Junior Division's Saipan Shipping Company-Jets (3-5) routed the

See **RED** on **Page 26**

DPS Dare Program-Leep Enforcers pitcher Cedric Camacho throws to first base after fielding a comeback dribbler against Kagman Lions in their Junior Division matchup last Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

## CNMI draws with Mongolia, succumbs to N. Korea

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The CNMI U14 National Football Team concluded its participation in the 2012 Boys Asian Football Confederation U14 Festival in Beijing, China with a draw against Mongolia last Sunday.

Earlier in the day, the islanders lost against North Korea in a lopsided score of 9-0.

According to team doctor/secretary Gary Ramsey, the boys' final match against Mongolia was a quite a nail-biter.

Mongolia drew first blood with a goal in the 11th minute, but the CNMI wanted this game badly and it caught a break at

See **CNMI** on **Page 26**

JOE AUTHER

The CNMI U14 National Team concluded its stint in the AFC U-14 Boys' Festival of Football for East Asia in Beijing China with a 2-2 draw against Mongolia.